FREE INDIA

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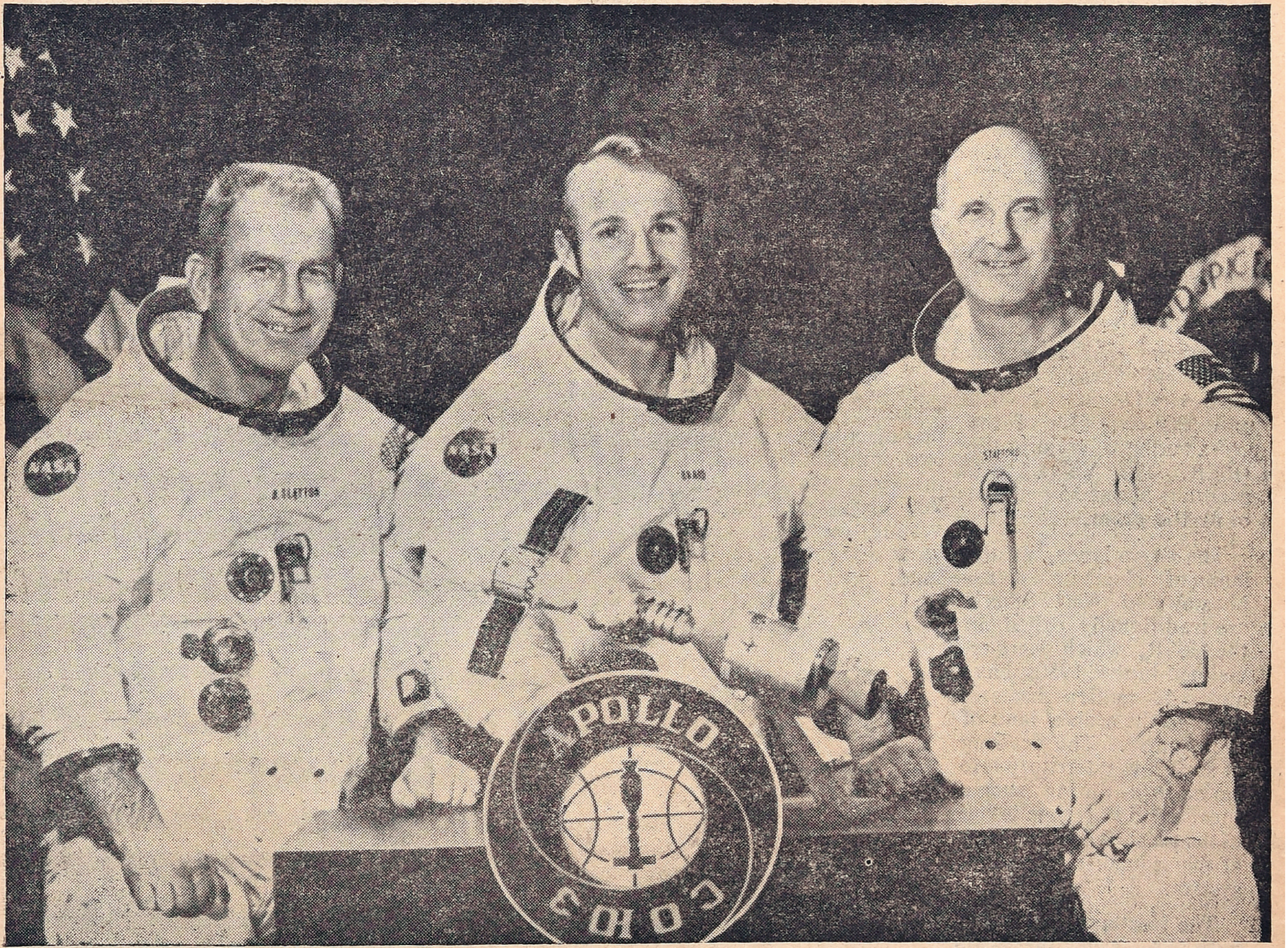
ON 15 APR 1974

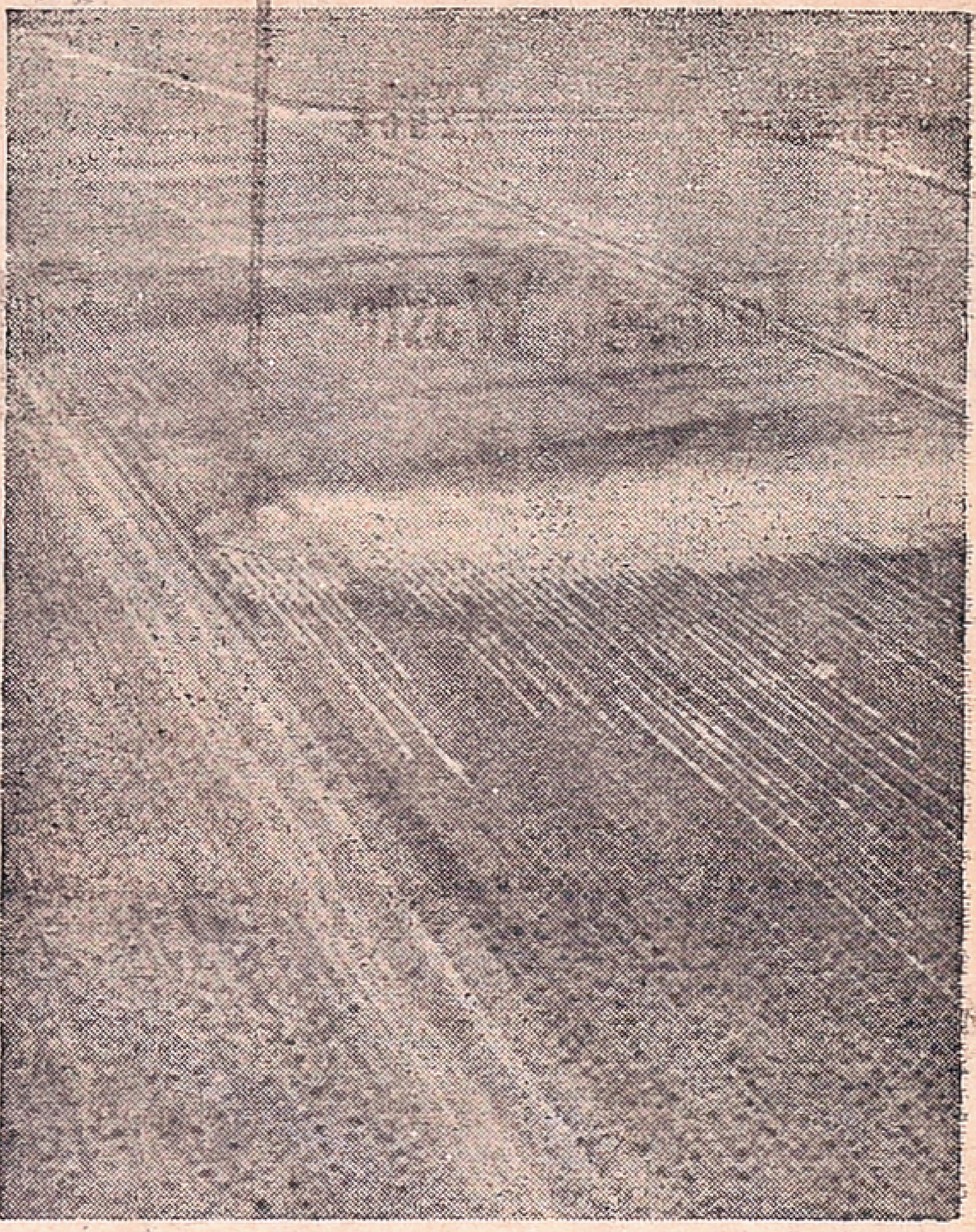
35th Of Year Publication ★ April 14, 1974 ★ 20 Paise



MEN AND MOTIF--The official emblem (shown in centre) for the joint U. S.- U. S. S. R. space flight planned for July, 1975, features the words Apollo in English and Soyuz in Russian and a depiction of the Apollo and Soyuz spacecraft docked together in earth orbit. The U. S. astronauts named for the mission, shown in their spacesuits, are, from left: Donald K. Slayton, docking module pilot; Vance D. Brand, command module pilot, and Thomas P. Stafford, commander.

SOUTH INDIA'S FINEST PICTORIAL WEEKLY

Grain Production In The USSR



Grain production is the key problem of Soviet agriculture and its very foundation. Therefore according to the Ninth Five-Year Plan for 1971-1975 the average annual production of grain in our country will reach 195 million tons, i.e., 27.6 million tons more than during the Eighth Five-Year Plan period.

In 1973, 127.9 million hectares of land have been sown with grain cultures. 60 per cent of the arable land in the USSR is situated in the zone of so-called "risky farming". About three quarters of the marketable grain in the Soviet Union is produced by districts which suffer regularly from severe droughts. In a word, the working conditions of farmers in the USSR are more difficult than in any of the developed agricultural countries of the West.

Ukraine is the oldest traditional "granary" of the Soviet Union It still produces one-fifth of the gross output of grain in the USSR. The Volga area produces about 15 per cent of all the grain.

The virgin lands, as the lands of Northern Kazakhastan and West Siberia are traditionally called in the USSR, which were reclaimed in the 1950s have added 42 million hectares more to the arable land of the country. The drawing of such a vast territory into agriculture during such a short period of time is one of the greatest achievements of the socialist economic system.

The Northern Caucasus, with its rich black-soil steppes along the banks of the river Kuban, produces 10 per cent of the country's grain.

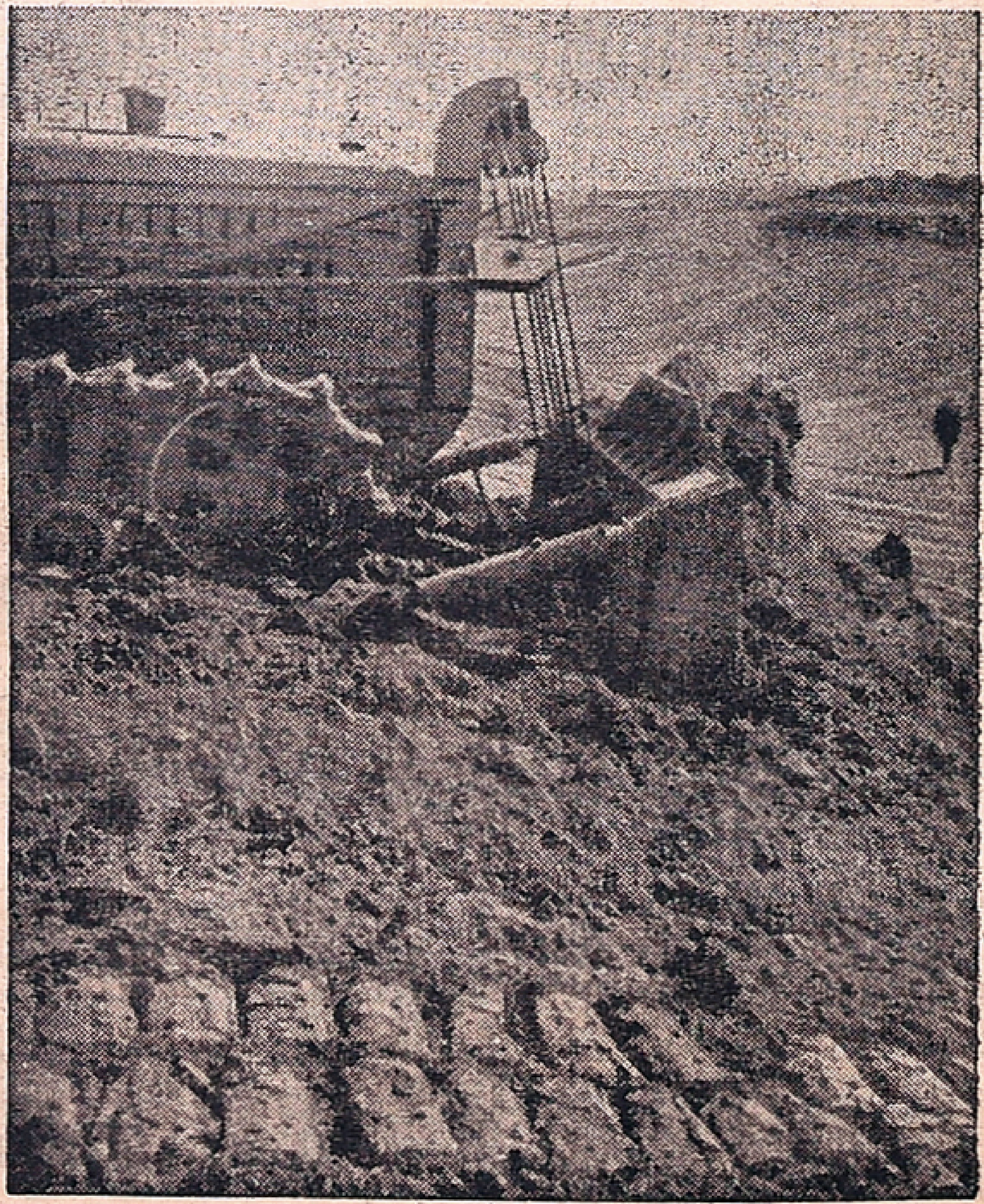
Land reclamation is one of the major steps in the solution of this problem.

Chemicalisation and mechanisation are important component parts of the Soviet programme for the intensification of agricultural production.

In the Soviet Union chemicalisation is understood not only as the use of mineral fertilisers. It also implies soil liming, plant protection, the application of polymers and the creation of a net-work of the agro-chemical service, in a word, a whole complex of measures.

To gather crops in a brief period-and the climate in the USSR makes it incumbent on the farmers to do it quickly-the country needs a vast number of harvesting machines. Now over two million tractors, 1.3 million trucks and almost 700 thousand grain-harvesting combines are at work on the Soviet farmland.

(More pictures on third and last cover)



Top : Irrigation system in operation.
Centre : The bread of the new crop is very tasty.
Bottom : Irrigation of fields is based on scientific methods.

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35th YEAR OF PUBLICATION

Free India

Founder : E. R. GOVINDAN

Vol. XXXV | Madras, Sunday, Apr. 14, 1974 | No. 29

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"SASTHRAM JAYICHU MANUSHIAN THOTTU"
(Malayalam)
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Why Cheap Oil Is Out

By JAMSHID AMUZEGAR, Iran's Minister of Finance

Finance Minister Jamshid Amuzegar in this exclusive article in Kayhan International defends the rise in oil prices. Among his many valid arguments are:

- **You have to give four tons of oil to get one ton of wheat, which is a reproducible commodity...whilst oil is not.**
- **Would it be deemed justified by future historians that within a period of 100 years...a few generations of human beings completely exhausted a noble natural resource?**

SPEAKING of oil, I am reminded of a saying. In France, whenever there is some trouble, they usually say "Cherchez la femme". It seems to me that today in the world at large wherever there is trouble they say "Cherchez le petroble". To blame oil and oil prices for all miseries and misfortunes of the world and particularly for the plight of the developing nations is overly simplified and unrealistic, to say the least.

Furthermore, it is not clear why oil, of all commodities, has been singled out. What about the need of developing nations for such commodities as wheat, sugar, oil seeds, prices of which have risen beyond all reasonable limits?

If cheap oil could be the answer to the problems of the developing nations, why didn't an abundance of cheap oil in the 1960s help solve their problems of misery, poverty, illiteracy, over-population? Why did the so-called "Development Decade" end in disappointment? As a matter of fact, what the cheap oil did was to further widen the gap between the developed and the developing nations.

To back up that statement I'd like you to bear with me that in 1947 the price of a barrel of the Iranian light crude was $2.17. Thirteen years later in 1960, the price dropped to $1.79 and remained the same throughout the 60s, while the developing countries had to import their requirement of manufactured goods at rising prices. For almost a quarter of a century, a handful of industrial countries enjoyed cheap oil as the prime mover of their accelerated economic growth and during the same period the developing nations had to pay higher prices for their imports. This caused the widening of the gap between the developed and the developing, between the rich and the poor.

Now we hear from some quarters that present prices are unmanageable—that they may cause recession in the advanced countries. Does this mean that economic growth in the industrial countries has to depend on a transfer of real resources from developing countries at such low prices and in such large quantities as to satisfy the ever-increasing demands of over-consuming societies?

We have heard of a brain drain, but the drain is apparently not limited to the exodus of individuals from poor to rich countries. It is a natural resources drain also in the reverse direction. When we speak or hear of higher oil prices the question is: What price are we talking about? The price of oil in the Persian Gulf, the price of oil in the Mediterranean, the price of oil in the Caribbean, the Canadian oil price, the Nigerian oil price or the price of auctioned oil?

I do not wish to burden you with statistics and figures, but for anyone who would be interested, there are facts and figures available to see that at the present moment, there is wide disparity between the price of crude oil in different parts of the world and Persian Gulf crude oil prices are the lowest, taking into account allowances for geographical location, gravity differential and sulphur content.

We come to the $7 a barrel, the price at the Persian Gulf. This figure did not come out of the air. The rationale for the establishment of this price was to take into account the costs of alternative sources of energy in order to harmonise the price of oil with those costs. Expert advice was obtained from industrial countries to arrive at the costs of alternative sources of energy.

Seven dollars was the minimum figure. Actual figures, depending upon location and alternative, vary from about $7 to $14. The OPEC economic committee had studied the matter and proposed a $14 posted price on the basis of actual sale by Algeria and a $9 posted price on the basis of some limited exrefinery product prices. When this matter came for discussion in the last Tehran Conference, the Iranian delegation under the guidance of His Imperial Majesty, believed that any price between $9 and 14 had

(Contd. on page 12)

His Holiness Sri Sri Sat Guru Ganapathi Satchidananda Swamiji of Mysore who will be in Madras on April 16 and 17. He will be staying at 87, Sydenhams Road, (near Nataraja Theatre) Madras-3.

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THUS SPAKE THE MAHATMA

I have in my life never been guilty of saying things I did not mean-my nature is to go straight to the heart and if often fail in doing so for the time being, I know that Truth will ultimately make itself heard and felt, as it has often done in my experience.

ASOKA SCENTED BETELNUT POWDER

Free India

SUNDAY Apr. 14, 1974

WRONG

The "popular" Chief Ministers of many states are slowly becoming unpopular.

While food scarcity and huge unemployment are the causes of trouble in some states, the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister is unnecessarily inviting trouble.

Who are the Harijans that are pining to become temple priests? And what is wrong with the existing system of hereditary system? Especially when even legislators want some sort of a hereditary succession and employees of prosperous industrial units and public sector undertakings seek preference for their children in employment.

There are thousand and one ways of helping the Harijans to come up economically and one of them is to see that Harijan Welfare Minister's instructions are carried out by officers.

The scheme for pension for Anti-Hindi and border agitators, as announced by the Chief Minister, is highly improper.

Hindi is not gone. And border rows can be started at any time in this country to make heroes of ordinary men.

This only shows the shaky position of the DMK party and the pension plan is to retain some active members in the party.

The Chief Minister perhaps feels that the chances of his party coming to power again are bleak and wants to put the successor party in an embarrassing situation.

We hope the Chief Minister will be properly advised in time before much damage is done.

Man And His Place In Nature

By G. S. PATHAK

MAN has made many conquests over nature and has acquired knowledge undreamt-of, say, twenty-five years ago, which he can turn to his benefit or to his own destruction. Crass materialism has grown out of the unprecedented advance of science and technology. Distance has been annihilated and people living in remote regions have virtually become neighbours. Yet, they have not learnt to live like brothers.

Conflicts persist both on the national and international planes. Nations are afflicted internally with evils like parochialism, casteism, stateism, inequalities, intolerance, ignorance, etc. In the international sphere armed conflicts and wars still occur. Their causes, for example, racialism, arrogance of power, chauvinistic nationalism, and political greed, bedevil the affairs of mankind.

However, it is being realised—to use UNESCO's language—that "since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed.'

But no fruitful effort has been made on an appreciably large scale to change the minds of men and to erect and fortify the inner defences of life.

Nor are determined and sustained steps being taken to give a clear and definite direction to human thinking and action so that science and technology may be used only for the welfare of humanity and an end put to the frightening possibilities of their evil uses. Colossal amounts are spent on armaments every year which could be utilised to remove poverty, illness and ignorance of the less fortunate peoples of the world.

No doubt, man represents a great advance in evolution. Yet it is manifest that in this evolutionary process he has still greater heights to scale. Something vital is missing in human affairs. There is a *cul de sac*—a blind alley. Unless the thinking processes are drastically altered, there is no way out.

WORLD RELIGIONS

We must have a proper understanding of man and his place in the scheme of nature. By nature I mean here not only the physical universe but also the inner world, "the kingdom of heaven". For this it is necessary that there should be a dialogue between different religions in order to rediscover the meaning of man, and to restate it in the idiom of universality.

Here, I recall the observation of Professor Parrinder:

The religions of the world face a completely new situation today. Never before this century have they been in such close contact as they are now. The "one world" in which we live, with its close communications, makes nonsense of religious isolation.

It must be admitted that the unity of man must transcend all physical boundaries and override all man-made barriers. The realisation of the unity of man will impart an element of spirituality to human thought and action.

This truth is beautifully expressed in a memorable verse of Svetasvatara Upanished:

> Yada karmavat akasam vestayisyanti manavah Tada devam avidnaya dukhasyante bhavishyanti

Which Swami Ranganathananda translates as follows:

> Man may try (through his technical advances) to roll up the sky itself as if it were a piece of leather. But with all that, he will never succeed in achieving peace and the end of his sorrow without realising the luminous Divine within him.

UNITY OF RELIGIOUS THOUGHTS

The emphasis by UNESCO on the "influence of spiritual values on political structure and techniques" is welcome. The element of "spirituality" depends upon the correct understanding of the evolution of man in the environment of nature in a wider sense and the discovery of the true relationship of man with God or superconsciousness.

This effort has been the constant concern of man since he attained civilisation. Religion is a relationship, personal and intimate, of man with his Maker. It is a part of one's being, and an integral part of one's emotions and feelings.

There is a diversity of races and nations in the world and a diversity of religions, but the object of all religious quest has been essentially the same through the ages.

All religions seek to know the supreme truth which pervades creation. In spite of the diversity of approaches, there is an underlying unity in the concept of the supreme reality.

All religions seek to lead man to a common goal. They appear to differ from one another because they were originally preached at different times and in differing environments.

The promotion of understanding and appreciation of the essential unity of all religions will help us to perceive and comprehend the fact that all of

(Contd. on page 12)

"World Stage"

"All the World's a Stage,
And all the men and
women merely players"
—Shakespeare.

Great men consider this World as a Stage and the Stage as the mirror of the World. "World Stage", a bi-lingual magazine in English and Tamil, ably edited and published by Poet and Playwright Thiru S.D. Sundaram ambly illustrates this Eternal Truth and highlights the hoary past of our glorious arts.

The Journal is dedicated to the Lord Almighty of this Cosmic Universe and to the Bard Bharathi of universal adoration. The Editor has woven the pages of this Journal with a poetic fervour and missionary zeal. He makes a stirring appeal to the Government and the people alike to extend greater encouragment to our arts.

In this article "Cultural Heritage of Traditional plays", he has given a chronological record with factual statistics about the growth of Tamil Drama over several centuries. The Journal also reproduces the glorious tributes paid by Perarignar Anna to the "Story of the Anklet-Poompuhar Drama" written by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamilnadu.

Mr. S. Paramanov descrises the phenomenal growth of the Soviet Theatre in his thought-provoking article.

Thiru T. Manikkavasagam portrays the mental conflict of the Epic Character Ravana with quotations from Kamba Ramayana.

There is also an One Act Play with permanent entertainment value.

On the lighter side, there are humorous sketches on the vagaries of the film field and a few funny incidents which actually happened on the stage.

Music and Dance also are prominently featured in this Art Journal.

The articles of the Editor are interspersed with his poems which add lustre to his emotional appeal.

In short, the Journal is well brought out with illustrations and is educative. "World Stage" will prove a valuable addition to the libraries and this creative art deserves the hearty support of all lovers of art, as a positive response to the Editor's appeal:

"No child can ever grow,
sans love of its own mother,
No tree without roots,
no roots without water,
No water without rains,
no rains without ocean;
Life springs from people's heart
to nurture every Creative Art!
Lend us your heart't support!
"World Stage" will do its part!"

City Train Timings

NOV 1, 1973

MADRAS CENTRAL

	Dep.	Arr.
Howrah Janata	8-40	19-15
Tatanagar Exp.	13-35	14-10
Howrah Mail	20-55	5-05
Circars Exp.	22-20	6-40
New Delhi Exp.	8-25	17-45
Hyderabad Exp.	12-50	10-15
Delhi Janata	14-00	15-55
New Delhi-Air-conditioned/Grand Trunk Express*	19-45	10-55
Dadar Express	9-50	17-15
Bombay Janata	13-40	14-05
Bombay Mail	21-50	5-15
Tirupati Exp.	7-15	21-30
Brindavan Exp.	8-10	19-05
Bangalore Exp.	14-25	13-25
Bangalore Mail	21-35	5-40
West Coast Exp.	12-25	14-45
Kerala Express	16-25	9-25
Mangalore Mail	20-20	7-00
Nilagiri Exp.	20-00	7-25
Cochin Mail	19-20	6-10
Gudur Pass.	8-45	22-50
Gudur Pass. (via Arkonam)	—	22-00
Vijayawada Pass.	15-20	12-40
Vijayawada Parcel Passenger	23-45	4-15
Raichur Pass.	9-25	19-55
Tirupati Pass.	17-00	9-45
Bangalore Pass.	6-05	21-00
Jolarpettai Pass.	11-20	14-25
Arkonam Pass.	18-10	—
Olavkot Parcel Passenger	21-25	6-10

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*This train will run as air-conditioned express ex-Madras Central on Mondays and Saturdays and arrive Madras Central on Wednesdays and Fridays. On the other days of the week, it will run as Grand Trunk Express.

MADRAS EGMORE (MAIN LINE)

Cholan Express	9-50	16-25
VirudunagarJanata	15-20	7-45
Rameswaram Exp.	19-30	8-05
Tiruchi Pass	6-45	
Nagore Fast Pass.	15-55	12-05
Trivandrum Pass.	21-20	5-20
Madurai Parcel Passenger	22-25	4-50
Shencottah Pass.	—	21-15

CHORD LINE)

Trivandrum Exp.	8-10	18 10
Kanyakumari Exp.	18-15	8-35
Trivandrum Mail	19-00	7-15
Pandyan Exp	20-10	6-40
RockFort Express	22-00	5-40
Rameswaram Passenger	11-00	15-50
MADRAS BEACH		9-55
Chingleput Pass.*	17-07	10-40
Kancheepuram Passenger*	17-33	9-55
Kancheepuram Passenger	18-12	9-13

*Will run on all days except on Sundays.

Sunday service will be observed only on Madras Beach-Tambaram Electrified suburban section,

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A Vision And A Friendship That Pioneered Herbicides In India

By L. PEARSON-JOSEPH

SOME years ago a young man conceived of a practical way to help his country and his countrymen. This man—Mr M. A. Sreedhar who saw India's food production falling victim to weeds dreamt of building a factory here to manufacture chemical weed killers.

India's agricultural improvement programme until about twelve years ago, was limited to extending the irrigation system and using improved seed, insecticides and fertilizers. While the quantum and quality of the crops improved every year weeds destroyed about 50% of India's most cherished crops. Chemical weedicides were unknown in India at that time

Weeds damage crops by stealing from the crops the light, water and nutrients they need. Rid of unwanted competition from the often prolific and persistent weeds the crops show an increase in yield of about fifty to sixty per cent.

To eradicate weeds Indian farmers in the old days simply pulled them out. The high labour costs of this operation as well as reduced yields helped to boost our cost of living. Mr. Sreedhar realised that better and faster methods of weed eradication had to be introduced to Indian agriculture.

While doing graduate work in engineering and industrial management at the University of Pennsylvania, USA, M. Sreedhar became acquainted with Amchem Products Inc. of Ambler, Pennsylvania, a firm manufacturing agro-chemicals Amchem's Vice-President Mr. John Shellenburger befriended Mr. Sreedhar and they discussed herbicides and their likely impact on Indian agriculture.

Mr. Sreedhar returned to India in 1956. He immediately organised, all over India, programmes to discuss weeds and weedicides. Further he instituted field trials to demonstrate the effectiveness of herbicides. He started Agromore in Bangalore as a distributor for all of Amchem's agricultural chemicals. In 1959 Agromore obtained a license from the Government of India to manufacture agro-chemicals. The following year Agromore was incorporated with Amchem. Amchem holds a 25% equity in this firm. At present Agromore Limited is the only company in India manufacturing herbicides.

In these days of fertilizer shortages, the use of weed killers saves substantial quantities of fertilizer. Dr. B.S. Shetty, Technical Advisor, Agromore Ltd. says, 'India needs 3.8 million tonnes of fertilizer annually of which 2·6 million tonnes are imported. By using weed killers one-third of the nutrients that would be lost to unwanted plants are saved. Thus we save about Rs. 10 crores in foreign exchange."

Dr. B. S. Shetty, Agromore's technical advisor, examines hybrid maize crop treated with Agromore herbicide.

Amchem provides Agromore with the technology to produce a range of agro-chemicals, industrial chemicals and rodenticides. But the flow of technical information is not in one direction alone. Agromore's application research—testing of Amchem's chemicals under local conditions—results in a wealth of information for the parent company. Dr. Shetty cites a recent example, "We used 'Ethrel', a relatively new plant growth regulator, introduced by Amchem Products Inc. to break in the mango plant a phenomenon called 'alternate bearing.' This is a phenomenon whereby the tree flowers in alternate years. 'Ethrel' induces flowering during the off-year which means the farmer gets a uniformly good crop every year. This bearing phenomenon of the mango, a crop of great commercial importance, has been broken by Agromore's research for the first time anywhere.

Reaping its own harvest from India's increased food production is the rat. Rats destory about 20 p. c. of India's food grains annually. Agromore's adaptive research resulted in a rat-poison so packaged as to deceive the wily rat. Blending an Amchem rodenticide with rich natural foods like wheat, maize and sugar Agromore's scientists produced a ready-to-use packet. All the user does is to rip open the carton and leave it in a place frequented by rats This product does not deteriorate with moisture, heat or age. Agromore, to date, has marketed more than two lakhs rupees worth of this product. Amchem now uses Agromore's method of production for marketing their rodenticides in other countries around the world.

In addition to Amchem products Agromore also formulates and distributes the products of another U.S. company—Du Pont of Wilmington, Delaware. A Du Pont development and service resident representative helps Agromore with its technical and marketing problems. Dr. K.C Nag, the Du Pont representative says, 'Du Pont identifies Agromore as a pioneering company in the field of weed killers in India. They are our sole distributors for agrochemicals in India. We hope that Agromore will soon manufacture Du Pont products."

Agromore exports some of its products to the Far East. At present these exports total only about six lakhs rupees. Mr. R. Suryanarayan Rao, Agromore's General Manager expects the value of exported products to increase this year.

Mr. M.A. Sreedhar passed on a few years ago but Agromore Ltd., Bangalore stands today as a tribute to his pioneering efforts in the field of herbicides. "The outstanding feature of our organisation," says Mr. M.A. Parthasarathy, Managing Director of Agromore, "is that everyone here wants to carry on in the spirit of Mr. Sreedhar and this makes it a close-knit organisation."

FUN AND LAUGHTER

PLAYING WITH FIRE

A divinity professor was asked to preside at the bap ism of the latest arrived infant in the already crowded home of the minister of the parish.

The professor gave out for congregational singing one of the paraphrases often used on such occasions in Scotland.

"Let us," he said "using from the second verse, 'As sparks in close succession rise.'"

To his conste'rna ion he observed that the congregation seemed unable to repress a tendency to giggle.

Afterwards asking the minister's man what had been wrong, he received the reply, "You see, sir, the minister's name is Sparks, and yonder is his tenth child."

* * *

CALL OF LOVE!

She was pretty and ambitious and had studied the matrimonial problem to a nicety.

"Yes, I suppose I shall wed eventually," she said, "but the only kind of masculine nuisance that will suit me must be tall and dark, with classical features. He must be brave, yet gentle. He must be strong a lion among men but a knight among women."

That evening a bow-legged, lath-farmed, chinless youth, wearing flannel bags and smoking a cigarette that smelt worse than a burning boot, rattled on the back door, and the girl knocked four tumblers and a cut-glass dish off the side board in the haste to let him in.

* * *

TO THE POINT

The landlord of offices tenanted by a firm of Scots lawyers whose lease was about to expire wrote to ask whether they were going to continue in occupation. Their reply was:

"Dear Sir, We are, Yours truly —"

Not appreciating this effort in economy of words—and paper—he wrote again to demand whether or not it was their intent'on to remain. The answer was:

"Dear Sir, We remain, Yours truly —"

The landlord is not trying again.

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SUSPICION

He was an author, and self-opinionated. He entered a book seller's and approached the assistant at the fiction counter.

"Oh—ah," he said, proudly, "I'm Harold Van Scrybe—author of 'Live for Love and 'Desert Heroes."

"Oh—yes, sir?"

"Can you t ll me how my books are going?"

"Well, sir," the assistant replied confidentially, 'two copies have gone, and I don't mind telling you it's got us puzzled up to now. In my opinion, though, it's shop-lifters!"

* * *

It is better to marry a talkative woman or the other kind—if there is another kind?

LOOK OUT!

A countryman heard that the job of watchman at a single-line railway crossing was vacant.

"You'll have to undergo a strict examination," the man in charge said when he applied for the job.

"Ask me anything!" bragged the applicant.

"All right," spoke up the examiner. "Supposing you are at the crossing and two trains are coming along from opposite directions, what would you do?

"I'd blow my whistle."

"Supposing your whistle was out of order?"

"I'd always wear a red shirt, and I'd take it off and flag the trains."

"Let's say this happened at night."

"Then I'd swing my lantern."

"But suppose you had no oil in your lantern."

"In that case I'd call my sister.

"Your sister? What for?"

"I'd just say to her: Come on down, sis, and see the mightiest wreck you ever saw in all your life!"

LO(W) & BEHOLD

'I say, Joe, your girl looked wonderful in that religious gown she was wearing last might"

"What do you mean, 'religious.' gown?"

"Oh, you know; sort of Lo and Behold."

* * *

INCORRIGIBLE

He was lecturing on temperance. "Some advocate moderation," said he, "and some counsel total abstinence. Now, what is the great drink question?"

"What'll you have?" said a voice from the back.

DASHED EASY!

A woman decided to have the shape of her nose altered. So she called on a beauty-surgeon.

"How much will you charge to alter the shape of my nose?" she asked.

"A hundred guineas, madam"

"A hundred guineas," she exploded "Isn't there something less expensive?"

"Well," replied the surgeon, suavely, "you could try walking into a lamp post."

* * *

HE KNEW!

Calling at the doctor's house, a visitor met the young son at the gate.

"Is your father in?" he asked.

"No; he's out giving an anaesthetic"

"That's a big word for such a small boy. Do you know what it means?"

"Yes," replied the youngster coldly. "It means two guineas to us."

* * *

HIS QUEST

Reggie was an ardent lover, but his spelling wasn't so hot! However, he thought it best to write to the father of his adored one, asking for his consent.

"Dear Sir," ran the note.—"I wish to ask for the hand of your daughter, the flour of the family."

Back came father's reply. It ran:

"Is it the flour of the family or the dough you're after?"

* * *

JUST A REPLY!

He appeared before the company officer, charged with using insulting language to his sergeant.

"Please, sir," he protested, "I was only answering a question."

"What question?" snapped the officer.

"Well, sir, the sergeant said, 'What do you think I am?' and I told him."

* * *

LOOK MUM!

And then there is that one about the kid on the new bike who was showing off in front of his mother. First he rode past the door with feet off pedals and said "Look, mom, no feet. The next time round he yelled: "Hey, mom, look, no feet and no hands." The third time round he murmured: "Mom, look, no teeth."

* * *

SHOW UP!

An order issued by a certain Army Command in Britain is an example of how official pronouncements can brighten the dullest day.

It refers to certain coloured leave passes, and runs as follows: "Members of the Women's Auxiliary Terri orial Service will show their pink forms whenever called upon to do so."

ASKING FOR IT

He was charged with striking a woman in a bus, and the magistrate asked him what excuse he could offer.

"Well, Sir, it was like this," replied the culprit. "She got in the bus and sat down. Then she opened her bag, took out her purse closed her bag, opened her perse and took only a penny. Then she noticed the conductor was going upstairs, so she opened her bag, took out her purse, closed her bag, opened her purse. put in her penny, closed her purse, opened her bag, put in her purse, and closed her bag. Then she saw the conductor coming down the stairs, so she opened her bag, took out her purse, closed her bag, opened her purse, took out a penny, and closed her—"

The magistrate could bear it no longer.

"Stop!" he cried, "you'll drive me crazy!"

"That's just what happened to me, sir," said the man.

LITTLE LAUGHS

"Why, doctor, you're writing poetry."

Yes, just to k ll time."

'Oh, haven't you any patients now.

* * *

"There is always a lull before the storm."

It is sometimes called a honeymoon!

* * *

Some people are so dumb that the only thing they ever get in their heads is a cold.

* * *

Wife: "Pres nt day clothes have a splendid finish, haven't they dear?"

Husband: "Yes. But the starting price is something awful."

* * *

If a man is a liar it is useless to tell him so. He knew it all the time.

* * *

I expected to inherit something from him, but when the will was read I found that all he had bequeathed me was a hideous vase that I had foolishly admired."

That was a nasty jar for you.

* * *

How many times shall I bow?" said the novice ent rtainer at the battalion variety show.

"Bow?" said t e stage manager. "No bowing for you, mate, you will have to duck."

* * *

"I started to swim across a rather wide pond and when half-way over I realised that I should not be able to reach the other side."

So you turned back?

* * *

"I am going to sue my landlord because the ceiling of one of my rooms fell d wn without warning."

Did you expect him to give you notice of it?

How He Reaped 275 Tonnes Of Cane Per Hectare

T. R. RAO

"HOW is it that you harvest record yields of sugarcane year after year?" is the question frequently put to Prafulla Chandra by the farmers who visit his model farm at Fosahalli Village, near Shimoga in Karnataka State.

"The highest yield of 275 tonnes of sugarcane per hectare (Eksali) which I harvested in the All India Sugarcane Competition, 1972, is not my final target, though it is almost three times the yield what other farmers in my area are able to harvest, "says the young energetic, educated and allround farmer.

Yes, Prafulla Chandra is an allround farmer. He is not only an expert in sugarcane cultivation but also expert in getting high yields of other crops such as paddy, ragi, areca-nut, Giant Napier, that he raises. He stood first in the State Competition. In the All India Crop Competition, 1972, he won a prize-another feather to his cap-by producing about 147 quintals of Jaya paddy per hectare.

Shri Prafulla Chandra an allround farmer of Karnataka with his prize-winning sugarcane and Jaya paddy crops

HOW HE DID IT

"After incorporating sunhemp crop as green manure, I ploughed the field thrice and passed the cultivator thrice. Before making ridges and furrows of 75 cm width in the East-West direction to tap the maximum sunlight during its growth period the plot was levelled.

"I planted 75,000 three-eye-budded seed setts per hectare as against normal 30,000 setts to maintain very high population per unit area, and to get maximum yields. 'My experience shows that the seed-rate must be high though it costs more." He always plants the setts at the lower end of the ridge after treating them with Agalal and Endrin solution, to get the maximum percentage of germination.

Further to get the top yields Prafulla Chandra says "Sept.-October season is the best planting time in Shimoga area. The crop will then be 14 months old at the time of harvesting. This, I feel helps in increasing the sucrose percentage and also the weight of the cane".

HIGH DOSE OF FERTILIZERS AND MANURES

He enriches the soil every year with organic manure. His competition plot received 25 tonnes of well rotten farmyard manure per hectare at the time of land preparation.

Prafulla Chandra gives even higher doses of fertilisers than recommended by the Sugarcanes Specialist, as the population in his field is almost double due to high seed rate. Altogether he applies 285 kgs. of N and 130 kg. of P, and 285 kg of potash, in split doses, one at the time of planting; second after six weeks of planting; third after 4½ months of planting i.e. at the time of final cultivation and the final dose of 60 kg. nitrogen in the 24th week of its planting through irrigation water mixed with 5 litres of Heptachlore.

"I weed three times during 6th, 12th and 24th weeks of planting. Earthing-up is also done simultaneously along with the first and second weedings.

"I always take care to see that my cane crop receives water just required, not less or not more. I irrigate it every week instead of 10 days as other farmers do.

"My sugarcane never had the chance of becoming a victim of pests and diseases, as I always take plant protection measures in advance. I spray thrice a mixture of Folidol and Diathane-Z-78, during 6th, 12th and 24th weeks after planting", thus Prafulla Chandra emphasises the need of taking steps in advance for controlling pests and disease.

A NEW TECHNIQUE OF PREPARING THE RATOON CROP

"After the harvest, I do not set fire to the stubbles but allow the ratoon plants to come-up as they are, even without chopping the stubbles. After applying about 625 kgs. of burnt lime and 12 cartloads of tanksilt and farmyard manure per hectare to the ratoon crop, I irrigate it if necessary. During the 4th and 10th weeks, I apply fertilizer (50-25-25) mixture and after 15 weeks 50 kg. of urea and 50 kg. of muriate of potash in bands along the plant rows. Earthing-up is also done simultaneously.

"Normally no weeding is done since there is no chance for weeds to grow in ratoon. Irrigation is given only once in a month."

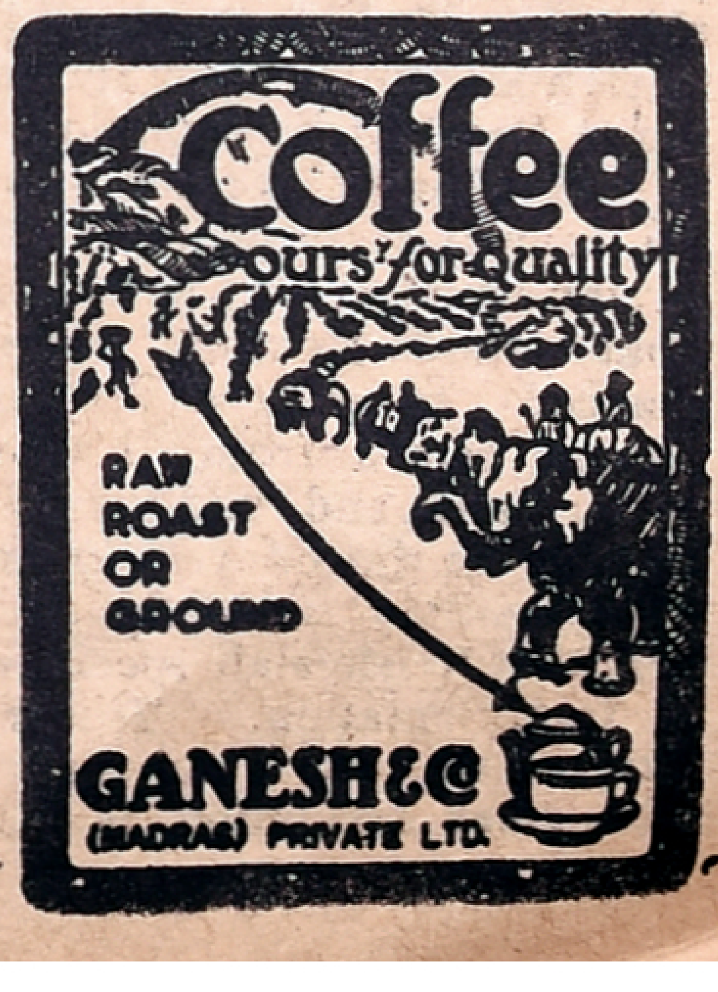
"According to my experience, the advantages of this new technique over the scorching method are: the growing period is increased by one month; less irrigation is needed; there is no chance for weeds to come up, the unburnt leaves of sugarcane supply more organic matter to the soil than the burnt ones and I save on labour spent on uprooting the cane stubbles" narrates Prafulla Chandra enthusiastically about his new techniques of sugarcane cultivation.

To my question what benefit he derives by participating in crop competitions, Prafulla Chandra unhesitatingly replied, "It helps me to get very high yields and proves the worth of my soil and myself. 275 tonnes of cane and 147 quintals of paddy per hectare are not my final targets. I continue to participate in the competitions and I must break the Indian records, of course, only with Co419 cane and Jaya paddy, the varieties I believe, have got that much potentiality to yield well. (FIU)

Do You Know?

FILM EXPORTS

- *Indian films are in great demand in Afganistan, Sri Lanka. East Africa, Fiji, Hong Kong, Iran, Indonesia, Mauritius, Singapore, Thailand, Trinidad, U.K. and West Asia.*
- *Five hundred and eighty-eight films have been exported through the State Trading Corporation after it began canalising feature films from the 1st November, 1972.*
- *Six Indian film weeks were organised in the U.K, Bulgaria, USSR, Canada, Australia and Mongolia from the 1st November, 1972 to October 1973.*



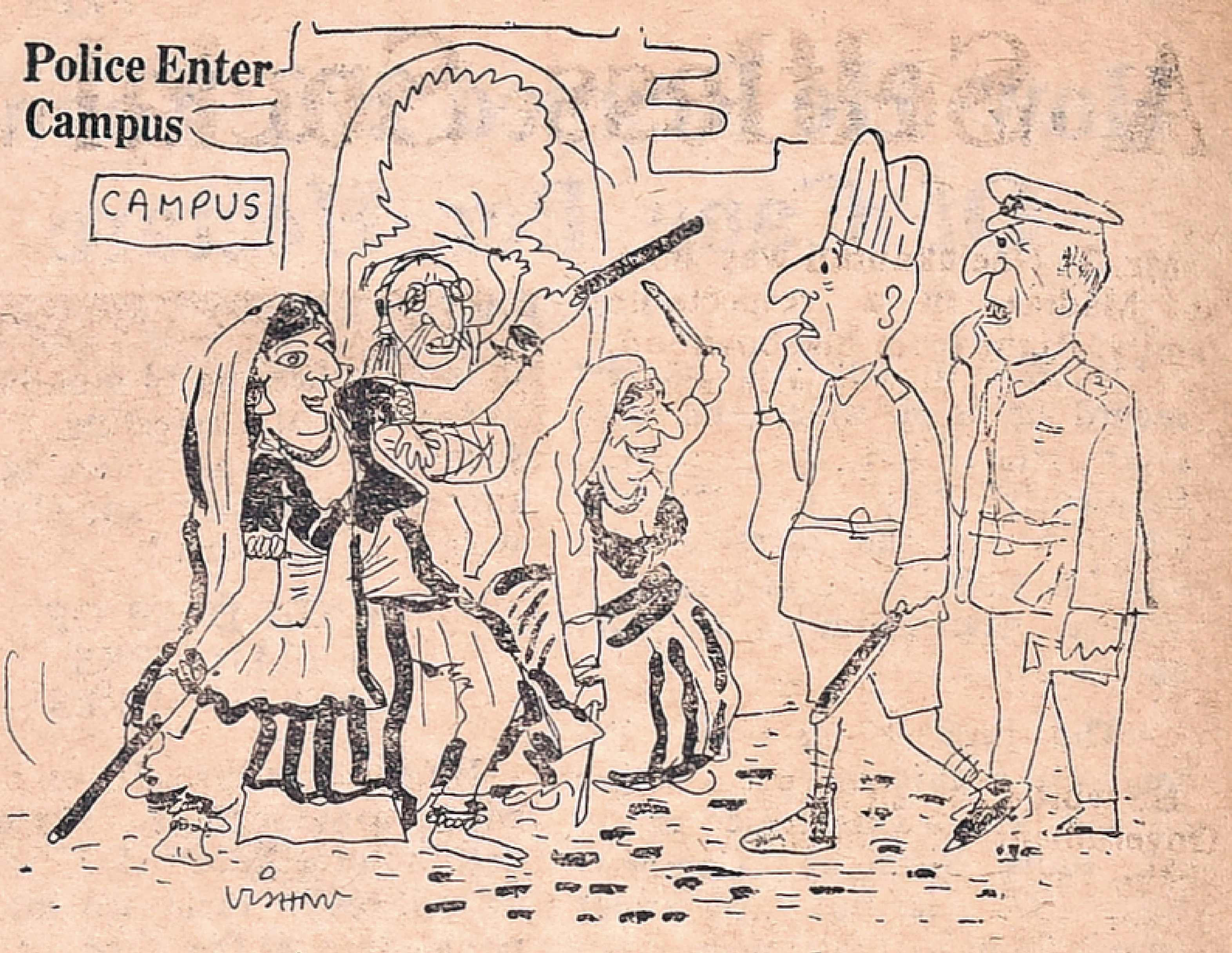
Comments By Vishnu

THIS PROGRESSIVE AGE

"One of the several disabilities of contemporary life is the endless assault upon our minds of scientific discovery and the glittering inventions of applied science. At one moment we are staggered by the astronomer's revelation of galaxies beyond the galaxies that were charted yesterday, and scarcely have we accepted a new breach in the froniters of the sky when we are summoned to applaud a new invasion of the bacteriologist's fearful kingdom by yet another successfully isolated antibiotic. The physicist, having profoundly alarmed us by a demonstration of nuclear fission, throws us into deeper consternation by the more dreadful menace of fusion; and the psychologist, after shocking us by an exposure of the sexual snake-pit that underlies our conscious minds, throws us into profounder gloom with his assurance that every human brain is still haunted by the ritual obligations of the Stone Age. In the material and visible world we see aircraft flying at supersonic speeds, and, desperately trying to keep abreast of them, we study aerodynamics, metallurgy, and jet-propulsion; while nightly, before an illuminated screen and entertainment that used (unfai ly) to be confined to the nursery, we are stimulated to think of the laws that govern the emission of electrons from a surface irradiated by light, and of the quantum theory of Plank that encouraged them do so."

—ERIC LINKLATER

In *British Medical Journal* (1955)



"We were forced to invite you here to maintain academic freedom and peace here because we ran out of tranquillisers..."

TRANSPLANTATION

One needs luck to get out of the rut; this the family of Gunturi Narasayya found out to their great regret and chagrin.

Narasayya and his wife grew tobacco on the fertile soil of Andhra Pradesh. This was the occupation of their parents and their grand-parents before them. One hot day while transplanting tobacco seedlings a throught occurred to the wife: "we have an only son who is going to school. He is bright. Why should he have to follow us in our foot-steps? Let us give him a better and brighter future. We have enough money. Let us train him for one of the professions." Narasayya heartily endorsed this idea. "Let us train him to be a Doctor," He said. So in course of time the boy successfully completed his pre-medical studies and various social factors then prevailing specially favoured him to get an admission to the local medical College. His career was not an outstanding one but was well above the average and in due course he went for post-graduate studies in medicine and surgery. On completing this he secured a fellowship to go abroad. He studied in foreign institutions and specialised in Heart Transplantation. At one of those big receptions at his country's consulate in that foreign country, Dr. Krishnaiah (that was Doctor's name) chanced to meet a very important person from his own native land and had the privilege to be introduced to him. The dignitary was delighted to hear that Krishnaiah specialised in transplantation. "It is men like you we need in our country. The green revolution is being held up because qualified persons like you don't elect to return to serve your native land.' Although bewildered by the remark about revolution, peace-loving Dr. Krishnayya assured the V.I.P. of his patriotic desire to return and indeed before the year was out he was back home.

For two years he spent his time seeking a suitable job without any success. The Department of Medicai Education said that they would be pleased to employ him as a tutor in Anaesthesia because they were short of anaesthetists and no one was attracted to that speciality. The appointment was a pur ly temporary one and the job was offered only because the Director of Medical Services was impressed with his qualifications and would like to favour him on that score; but then he should not grumble if he were posted to a village that was not adequately doctored even by Vaids and Hakims.

Dr. Krishnaiah approached many big personalities connected with the administration. Why not apply in response to a P.S.C. advertisement for a transplant surgeon but no such advertisement ever appeared in any paper because presumably no one required a transplant Surgeon. At last one day in the great capital of his own country Dr. Krishnaiah met the Minister of Agriculture, the same friendly dignified man who had given him such encouragement abroad.

The dignitary was shocked to learn that Dr Krishnaiah after two years in the country was still in search of a suitable job. "Jump into my car" he said and they drove to a great big place where flags fly and no one could get in beyond uniformed guards without special security passes. The dignitory took him to his office and phoned someone. An important officer came in and lead Dr. Krishnaiah away. Dr. Krishnayya was handed over to the Central Secretary of Agriculture. He was then passed on to the State Agricultural D partment. The State Agricultural Department passed him on to a Regional Officer who in turn sent him to a local Field Development officer under whom Dr. Krishnaiah finally got his job.

Now in his own village, where his father and mother still work, and where their parents and grand parents worked before, Dr Krishnayya cheerfully transplants tobacco seed ings. He does not complain because he gets paid well for it; any way, any-day it was an infinitely better existence than being a tutor in anaesthesia having the obnoxious gases dull and deaden one's senses and sensisibilities.

You see, one needs luck to get away from the rut.

Pregnancy Advisory Service

(Please see Free India dated 24th March 1974)

Pregnancy Diagnosis is one of the aims.

Failure of onset of monthly periods, nausea and vomiting, tingling of breasts and enlargement of the womb, all these suggest the possibility that a lady may be pregnant. The absolute and irrevocable evidence of pregnancy comprises the demonstration of the pre sence of a baby's heart beats, evidence that the baby is moving inside, and the demonstration by means of X-rays of the presence of baby bones in the womb.

Exposure to X-rays early in pregnancy is harmful to the baby and not advised. Hence for the early diagnosis of pregnancy two methods help.

One is a chemical test on the mother's urine, a sample and painless test.

The other is to show that the baby's heart beats are present This can be done by using a sophisticated electronic device called the **ultrasonic foetus heart monitor** which records and amplifies the baby's heart beats. This enables every one present to hear it. This is possible as early as the 3rd month of pregnancy. This is harmless.

—

The Greatness Of Hippocrates

"It must have been a marvelous experience to have sat under the branches of the old plane tree on the Isle of Cos, listening to Hippocrates as he demonstrated his patients, and following the working of a master mind. Today, it may not seem remarkable that Hippocrates, in making a diagnosis, took the patient's history, inquired carefully about his present illness, his past history, his family history, his habits, his work, where he lived, what he ate and drank, and then made a careful physical examination, employing inspection, palpation anau scdultation. following this with a careful examination of spurtum, urine, and stools. But in Hippocrates' day, soothsayers, astrologers, and the priests of various cults often dominated medical practice. They made their diagnoses by studying the stars, by examining the organs of sacrificial animals, by interpreting dreams, by studying omens and portents. This makes the achievement of Hippocrates stand out in bold and dramatic relief."

—*RALPH H. MAJOR, M.D.*
In International Record of Medicine
p 485, Sept. 1957

Useful Knowledge

The knowledge which a man can use is the only real knowledge, the only knowledge which has life and growth in it, and converts itself into practical power. The rest hangs like dust about the Brain or like raindrops off the stones.

—Fronde

A Selfless Social Worker

Mr. T. Neelakantan was born at Madras in a respectable family. Right from his boyhood, he has been taking part in social welfare activities. While studying in the High School, he took part in our country's freedom struggle. His name finds a place in the Directory of "Who is Who of the Freedom Movement" published by the Government of Tamil Nadu.

He worked in an office of the Government of India at New Delhi for some years, resigned the job, returned to Madras and took part in public-welfare activities. He started the Asoka Society and the Thiruvalluvar Sanmargha Sangham to do service in an organised way. Mr. N S. Arunachalam, I.C.S., and Mr. N. Krishnaswamy, I.A.S., Collectors of Madras, recorded their appreciations of his services. At the Local Welfare Agencies' Exhibition held at Raj Bhavan, Madras, in 1951, Prime Minister Nehru was pleased to know of his involvement in social work.

In recognition of his social services, the Government of Tamil Nadu appointed him as a Hony. Presidency Magistrate in 1957. For his earnestness and uprightness he was re-appointed again and again and he thus served as a Magistrate for about 12 years.

He worked for the welfare and the advancement of the Harijans and the other Backward Castes. He conducted welfare centres in slums and other backward areas. On his request, Governors Shri Sri Prakasa and Shri Bishnuram Medhi entertained large numbers of slum children at Raj Bhavan. In appreciation of his services, the Government of India appointed him as a member of the Central Advisory Board for Harijan Welfare in 1961. The Government of Tamil Nadu presented him with a certificate, signed by two Ministers, in 1970 for his services for the removal of untouchability.

In view of the frightful increase in our population, he began to propagate Family Planning in slums and other places, through meetings and film-shows. The Government of India appointed him in 1968 as a member of the Advisory Committee for Family Planning.

He took interest in Prohibition. He distributed literature on the evils of intoxication. He arranged meetings and film-shows in slums to emphasise the importance of Prohibition. He was a member of the Madras District Prohibition Advisory Committee of which the Collector was the Chairman. He gave evidence before the Tek Chand Committee on Prohibition at the Madras Secretariat in 1963.

He strongly feels that films should educate and entertain the public on healthy lines. He, therefore, took a leading part in protesting against obscene films and film posters. The Government of India appointed him as a member of the Central Board of Film Censors Advisory Panel at Madras in 1967. As a member of this Panel, he has been doing his best for the screening of good and helpful films. At a meeting in which the Chairman of the Central Board of Film Censors participated, Mr. Neelakantan said that many foreign films depicted more sex violence and crimes and that they had a deleterious effect on the minds of the Indian film-goers, especially the youth. Further, they induce the Indian film-producers to produce such films. He therefore, insisted that the censors at Bombay should be more strict while censoring the foreign films. In appreciation of his sincere and clean record of service, he is being re appointed again and again, as a member of this film censor advisory body.

We are happy to learn that Mr. T. Neelakantan, whose articles under the title "Tit-bits on Men and Matters" are appearing in our journal week after week, has been re-appointed as a member of the Central Board of Film Censors Advisory Panel at Madras. We offer him our hearty congratulations. As he takes keen interest in film censoring work, he richly deserves this re-appointment and even better appointments.

He has been actively associated in some of the Gandhian constructive activities. His name finds a place in the Directory of Gandhian Constructive Workers, published by the Gandhi Smarak Nidhi of New Delhi. As one connected with the Gandhi Peace Foundation Centre at Madras, he conducted youth camps in villages, where the campers participated in works like laying roads. He conducted study-circles, seminars and meetings on Gandhism for the benefit of students and others. The Government of Tamil Nadu appointed him as a member of the Sub-committee for Mass Contact, in connection with the Gandhi Birth Centenary Celebration in 1969.

On his suggestion and on the efforts taken by him, the All India Radio introduced a new weekly feature by name "Gandhi Charcha" in 1955 to propagate the teachings of Gandhiji. It was again on his suggestion, the Government of Tamil Nadu and then the Government of India, ordered for the publication of our National Anthem in the school text-books, so that everybody might learn to sing the anthem correctly.

About 14 years ago, Mr. Neelakantan suggested to the Government of India to find out something that could make the thatched roofs decay proof and fire-proof, so that the poor hut-dwellers could be relieved of frequent repairs and replacements. A chemical preparation has been evolved for this purpose.

Whenever natural calamities took place, he organised relief measures by collecting clothes, grains, medicines and money and passing them on to the proper authorities. When he was of assistance to the people of Kashmir, Mrs Indira Gandhi in her letter dated 1-8-1959 said:-.. I am so glad you are sending help to Kashmir. It will be greatly appreciated by the people and the Government there."

He contributed his mite and also collected from others contributions for the National Defence Fund, Gandhi Memorial Fund, Nehru Memorial Fund and the Jawans' Welfare Fund. He was one of those Hony. Presidency Magistrates who enacted a drama and presented the proceeds to the National Defence Fund.

He is free from the feelings of caste and colour, religion and region. He is an advocate of Universal Brotherhood. He feels that the United Nations is the only hope for the peace and prosperity of the peoples of the world. He therefore, propagates the aims of this world organisation and explains about its achievements so far, with the help of pictorial exhibitions and film shows.

He is connected with many social and cultural organisations. He was elected to important posts in some of them. He has attended many conferences and seminars, including the International Conference of Social Work in 1952. He has earned the appreciations of some Ministers and High Court Judges. Dr. U. Krishna Rao, who was a Minister and a Speaker, recorded on 19-8-1959 as follows:-".. I know Shri T. Neelakantan, J.P., very well. He is an honest and silent public worker.." Justice T. Venkatadri, High Court Judge, in his testimonial dated 9-10-1968 said:-" I have known Thiru T. Neelakantan for a considerable number of years. He is spending his time and energy in doing social service and is devoting himself to work for the welfare of the mankind.. Our country really requires such selfless people..".

We hope the Government and the public would utilise the services of such a sincere public-worker by offering him better assignment that can enable him to serve the people more effectively.

Men & Matters

By T. NEELAKANTAN

SMUTS' MARVELLOUS MEMORY.

Mr. Jan Christian Smuts, who was in power in South Africa when Mahatma Gandhi was fighting for the rights of the South African Indians, was reputed to have an astonishing memory. He remembered whatever he read. He had a library of his own, with more than 10,000 books. Whenever anyone wanted him to prove his memory power he would ask him to pick out any book from his library open any page and read aloud any paragraph in it. When that was done, he would tell the substance of the paragraph following the paragraph that was read out. Many tried this method and Mr. Smuts' memory never let him down.

DIGNITY OF LABOUR.

Many leaders in many countries have laid stress on the dignity of labour. Mr. Booker T.Washington, a great leader of the American Negroes, once said :- "No race can prosper, until it learns that there is as much dignity in tilling the field as in writing a poem".

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Muscovite's Diary

Ivan Ivanov

DAY OF PROTEST AGAINST WAR BASES IN INDIAN OCEAN

THE Soviet press carried special articles and commentaries last week to mark the International Day of Protest against imperialist war bases in the Indian Ocean and of struggle for making the Indian Ocean a zone of peace, which was held at the call of the World Peace Council.

Of late, SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIA writes, the attention of the public of Asian countries, first and foremost, of the countries of the Indian Ocean region, where Diego Garcia on which the Pentagon plans to build a major naval and air base lies, has been concentrated on this issue.

"Building up its military presense in the Indian Ocean and planning to set up another war base", the paper writes, "the United States is thus intensifying the threat to the independence of the countries of the region, pursues aims running counter to the aspirations of the peoples and the struggle for lasting peace."

The aggressive scheme of imperialism in the Indian Ocean, the newspaper remarks, has been sharply condemned in many countries of the world. The governments and the public of most Indian Ocean countries rejected Washington's attempts at justifying the American military expansion in that important region of the world by the alleged "Soviet menace".

Commenting on the recent France Presse dispatch from London to the effect that the Labour government was going to "review" the agreement on Diego Garcia, concluded by the Conservative government with the United States, the PRAVDA points out that official London keeps the question of the Diego Garcia agreement essentially open. "British progressive opinion considers that Harold Wilson's government which expresses its desire to promote relaxation of tension, has a real opportunity of proving this in practice. By denouncing the Diego Garcia agreement, the Labourites would make a substantial contribution to an improvement in the international climate," the PRAVDA has stressed.

* * *

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SOVIET PEOPLE'S INTEREST IN INDIAN CULTURE

The fact that Soviet people's interest in Indian cultural is growing day by day has been highlighted in the forward to a bulky volume of "The History of India", just published. This is clear from the fact that the Moscow publishing houses alone propose to issue books on India totalling a million copies this year. It will be relevant to point out here that during the years of the Soviet power several thousand books on India in a total edition of some 30 million copies were put out. They were public shed in 34 languages of the peoples of the USSR

In the Soviet Union, Indian arts and culture have always enjoyed the special attention of the general public as well as of scholars. The Soviet readers were long ago familiar with such great works of India like the MAHA BHARATHA and the RAMAYANA, which have been published here many times in the form of prose adaptations, children's stories and as many-volume translations. It is now planned to include the RAMAYANA and the MAHA BHARATHA in the multi-volume publication "Library of World Literature."

The great Indian poet Kalidasa was one of the first Indian poets with whom the Russian readers were acquainted from very early days. Translations of his works appeared in Russia as early as 200 years ago. The Kamerni Theatre under the leadership of the outstanding theatrical worker A. Tairov began its existence in 1914 with the staging of one of the plays of Kalidasa. Pushkin Theatre's repertory included the play SAKUNTALA for many years. Even now a ballet based on the motifs of this play is being staged in Riga, capital of Latvia.

Because of the popularity of Kalidasa's works, the Fiction and Poetry publishing House has planned to bring out his works in a single volume. Excerpts from a new translation of Kalidasa's MEGHA SANDESAM, by the Soviet translator S. Lipkin has been published in the FOREIGN LITERATURE magazine.

That the RAMAYANA was staged in the Children's Theatre in Moscow more than ten years ago, and has been running there ever since is wellknown.

* * *

SOVIET PEOPLE'S SOURCE OF WELL-BEING

Over the three years, real per capita income in the USSR went up by 13.5 per cent writes the noted Soviet analyst Mr. Derenik Allakhverdyan, in an article in the Soviet Weekly MOSCOW NEWS. Wages were increased for 31 million people, or every third industrial and office worker. Another 23 million people's income increased on account of raised pensions, scholarships and grants and other measures.

As many as 34 million people moved to new flats. Retail trade turnover increased by more than 20 per cent. The public education system and medical services system are being constantly improved and the public service industry is expanding. All these measures testify to the successful implemention of the 9th Five-Year Plan (1971-75)

Socialist economy in the USSR develops on a planned basis. The country knows no anarchy, crises or depressions in production, no unemployment, inflation, soaring prices or monetary crises, the author says. The average annual national income growth rate for the USSR in 1951-1972 was 8.3 per cent while it was 3.5 per cent in the USA.

A part of the common wealth is distributed through Social Consumption Funds—free education, free medical care, free accomodation in the sanatoriums and holiday homes or at reduced rates, pensions, sickness-benefits, paid vacations, scholarships for students etc. This is an important source for raising the Soviet peoples well-being. The amount of free medical aid, services and cash payments out of this fund will grow by 40 per cent in the Ninth Five-Year Plan.

* * *

PREPARATIONS FOR THE THIRD AFRO-ASIAN FILM FESTIVAL

"All the Soviet cinematographers are preparing for the Third International Film Festival of Afro-Asian Countries to be held in Tashkent" said the wellknown Soviet film director Boris Kimyagarov, People's Artiste of Tadjikstan SSR and first Secretary of the Union of Cinematographists of Tadjikstan, in an interview.

It may be recalled that the Tashkent Film Festival has become a tradition in world cinema and this year's festival is to begin on the 20th May at Tashkent, Capital of Uzbekistan. Apart from representatives from Afro-Asian countries, leading film people from many countries of Europe, America and representatives from a number of international organisations such as the UN and UNESCO will also participate in the festival.

"The organisers are doing their best to make the festival a notable event in world cinema art" says the Head of the Organising Committee of the Festival, Mr. Rano Abdullaev, the Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of Uzbekistan.

Tashkent Film Festival occupies a special place among the international film festivals. It does not envisage any competition among films to be represented there, but all films and all cinematographers participate in it with equal rights.

Strange But True

Aparthied News

Sixty-two per cent of the African children in South Africa are deprived of the possibility to go to school. But that is not enough for the racists. In Soweto, a suburb of Johannesburg, African children must now have special permits to attend school, and they are issued only to children born in Soweto. Children moving in with their parents from other parts of the country are not issued such "school passes." The new measure is expected to deprive thousands of children of schooling.

* * *

Victoria's Weeding Cake

A piece of an old cake was recntly sold at Christie's, the famous London auction house specializing in art objects and curios. It was bought by an Australian collector for æ76. The titbit was a piece of the cake made for Queen Victoria's wedding 134 years ago. The proof of its "authenticity" was a cardboard box with the inscription: "Buckingham Palace, 160 th of February had received it from the Queen herself.

* * *

Profitable Venture

Expense claims by Conservative and Liberal M P, s for their trips to the European Assembly in Luxemburg and Strasbourg recently met with opposition in the House of Commons. Labour M P,s accused some of them of collecting travel expenses which were double the actual cost of the journey and of making these trips a very profitable venture, When the M,P,s go to the Assembly, than the full air fare, During sessions they receive almost as much in a day as a week's work,

Record

West German schoolboy Thomas Niehaus recently set a new world record in letter writing. Two yea s ago he started a letter to his parents and sisters on a ro l of paper. When he finished it, it was 1,223 metres long He thus beat the previous record by 103 metres.

JEST IN PUN

By S. KRISHNAN, Cultural Affairs Adviser, USIS, Madras.

WHEN we think of a pun we automatically assume that it has to be funny. Even the Concise Oxford Dictionary, that volume of sacred law to all English-educated Indians of middle age, defines the pun as the "humorous use of a word to suggest different meanings or words of the same sound with different meanings." Of course the pun by its very nature lends itself to humorous use, but this is not to say it cannot be used for serious purpose, to express scorn, irony, pathos and a whole variety of emotions. In fact puns in the classical languages were used more often with serious import than humorously. As early literatures were more listened to than read, they tended to take full advantage of sound effects to create exalted religious and other kinds of responses, and puns were eminently suited for this purpose. So though we are talking about 'Jest in Pun" we should keep in the back of our mind the thought that this is an ancient and honourable literary convention.

I said that one automatically associates humour with pun. Even more automatically people tend to say that the pun is the lowest form of humour. This is of course nonsense. It has always been fashionable to affect to despise puns, even while enjoying them secretly and envying the facility of the person who has just made one. James McNeill Whistler, the painter with the acid wit, once said something that excited Oscar Wilde's admiration and made him exclaim: 'I wish I had said that!" Whereupon Whistler said bitingly. "You will, Oscar, you will" The same is true of those who seem to scorn the pun—more often than not they store the puns they hear in their memory and can hardly wait to use them when they get a chance. The trouble with the pun is that it seems deceptively simple when you read or hear one. It is only when you try your hand at making one yourself that you realise how difficult a job it is. So I think we can agree with Oscar Levant that "a pun is the lowest form of humour – when you don't think of it first."

Let us first take a quick look at the literary use of puns before going on to examine its popular usage. We can get all the examples we want from Shakespeare alone, who was an inveterate but extremely brilliant punster. His puns ranged all the way from the broadest coarse humour to solemn statements. We cannot of course discuss his earthy puns here. But Shakespeare's use of the pun in serious context is always well-timed, and matches the character of the speaker and the nature of the situation. A famous example is the statement that Mercutio in *Romeo and Juliet* makes as he lies dying. Having consistently displayed a mocking wit and a devil–may–care attitude, he speaks just the kind of words we have been led to expect of him: "Ask for me tomorrow and you will find me a grave man". In *Macbeth* the words again match the character of the speaker when Lady Macbeth, who has determined that Duncan, her guest, must be destroyed, says: "He that's coming must be provided for". The grim undertone beneath the seemingly polite words of a hostess sets the stage most effectively for the bloody events to come. One more example will suffice to show that to Shakespeare the pun was not really his "fatal Cleopatra" as Dr. Samuel Johnson complained gloomily, but a literary weapon which he used with extreme skill to enhance the effects he had in mind. In *Julius Caesar*, the ambitious and avaricious Cassius gives perfect expression to his bitterness when he says: "Now it is Rome indeed and room enough/When there is in it but one only man". Another splendid use of the pun in a context of extreme gravity occurs in the poem of John Donne, titled, "Hymn to God the Father". In the concluding lines of the poem in which he addresses God directly,

"Swear by Thyself that at my death Thy son
Shall shine as he shines now and heretofore;
And, having done that, Thou hast done;
I fear no more".

The story, true or apocryphal, of the pun Sir Charles Napier used to announce his annexation of the province of Sind illustrates a very effective bi-lingual wordplay. His message consisted of one word: *peccavi*. Now *peccavi* is the Present Perfect tense of the Latin root, *peccare*, meaning to sin. *Peccavi* therefore means "I have sinned,' a perfect example of a pun which says two different things in one sound—pattern. A sound pun, as one might say—Another example of the serious use of the pun, in fact a magnificent multiple pun which has a deep impact, occurs in one of the blues that the great black musician, Louis Armstrong sings:

"What did I do
To be so black and blue."

So the pun can indeed be used to express a variety of attitudes. However, it is customary, as I said before, to think of it as essentially humorous. Minor poets in particular love to use puns for humorous effect, and sometimes they succeed rather well. Take this verse by Thomas Hood, for example:

"His death, which happened in his berth,
At forty-odd befell,
They went and told the sexton, and
The sexton tolled the bell".

The first line, which plays on "berth" and birth" puts you on guard that the poet is up to no good, and the last two lines making merry with "Told" and tolled" cap the absurdity most satisfactorily.

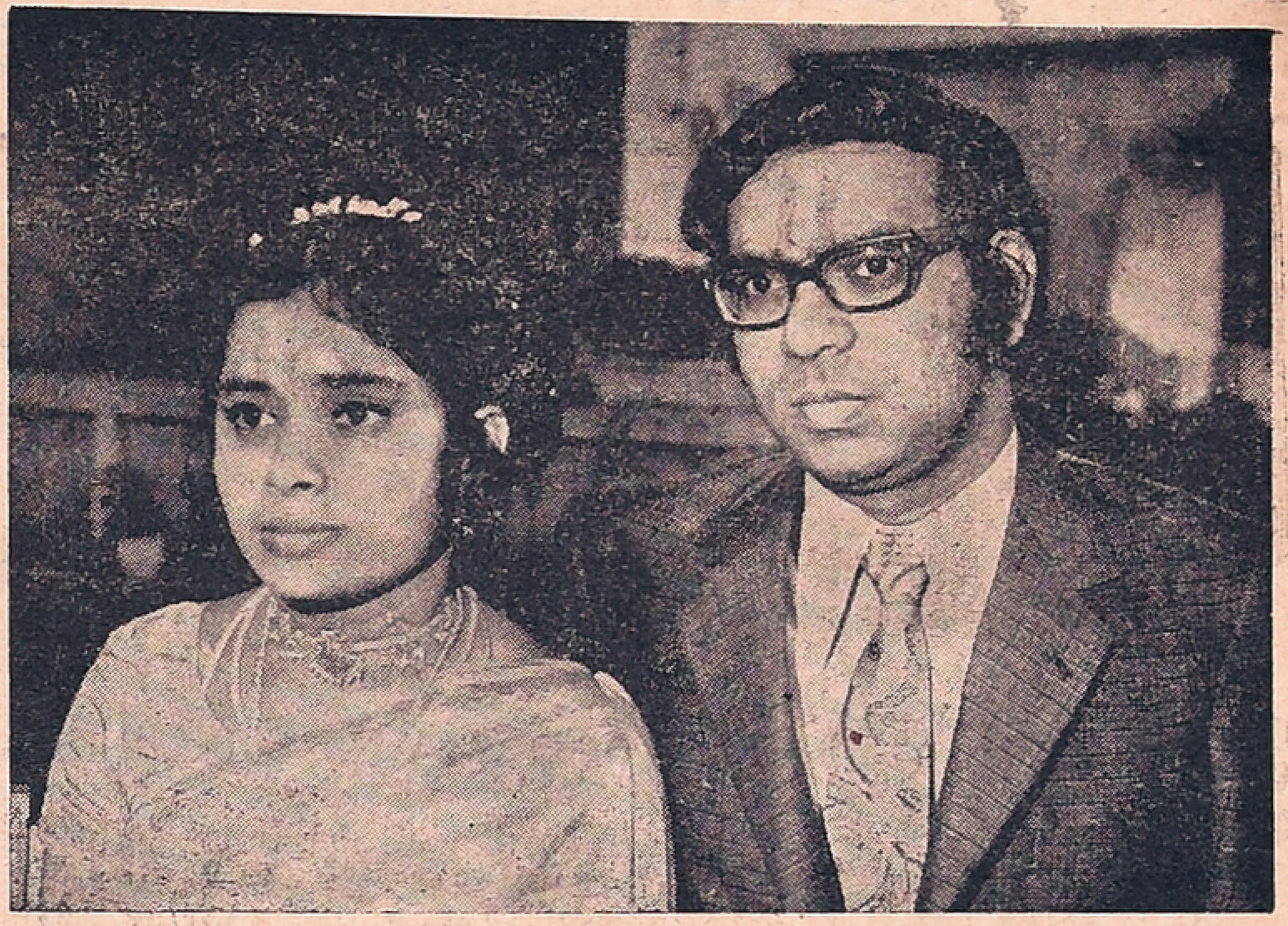
Here is another neat little pun which I am afraid Women's Liberationists are not likely to care for:

"Eve was nigh Adam
A dam was naive".

As we see, to be most effective the pun has to make its point quickly and economically And it is particularly striking when it is both impromptu and apt. A good example is this story: Once the judges of the U.S. Supreme Court went on a boat-ride during a vacation period. Justice Cardozo had a bad attack of seasickness and was leaning over the rail, his face green. Chief Justice Hughes who came upon the scene at that point asked Cardozo J. solicitously: "Can I do anything for you?'. 'Yes", answered Justice Cardozo, "overrule the motion".

The kind of pun in which the same word has two totally different meanings and yet fits the context perfectly is something special. Consider this story: the society matron, who does not like a photograph she has had taken, asks the photographer angrily: "Now, I ask you, does it look like me?" The photographer replies: "Madam, the answer is in the negative". In the same category is the pun in this story: Passing through the garment factory of a prison, the prison chaplain notices a prisoner sitting cross—legged, sewing a burlap bag. Wanting to be

(Contd. on page 10)



Dr. C D. Natarajan, M:B. B.S., (son of Mr.C,A. Dhayananthan, former Postmaster General of Madras) and Selvi Geethalakshmi B.A., daughter of Mr. Srinivasan, Managing Director, Anna Transport Corporation, Salem) who were married recently.

Do You Know?

Dairy Development Programme

* Government has taken concrete steps towards a large dairy and cattle development programme in rural areas during the 4th five-year plan. These are to continue in the 5th five-year plan.
* Cross breeding of cattle with exotic inheritance, establishment of semen banks and artificial insemination facilities are provided through these projects.
* Sixtytwo such projects have been established so far in various States.
* A target for 51 additional I.C.D.Ps. is envisaged during the 5th five-year plan.
* The cattle and dairy development is also assisted through key village scheme. Six hundred and twenty-two key village blocks are functioning at present and it is proposed to increase the number to 713 shortly.

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Do You Know?

Reversing Brain Drain

- *A package scheme is being formulated to attract Indian scientists, technologists and engineers working in production units abroad.*
- *They will be encouraged to start their own industries in the country, particularly in spheres where they possess skills in production technology.*
- *The package scheme is in addition to the measures already taken like the organisation of the Scientists Pool and the creation of supernumeary posts in scientific institutions and industrial organisations.*
- *Over 5,000 scientists, engineers and doctors have so far been helped to return to India and settle down here.*

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Z9SEA

National Fossil Wood Park At Thirvakkarai

It is an interesting and exciting scene for the visitor to see the fossilised tree trunks lying scattered in the stream sections and low mounds in the Thiruvakkarai National Fossil Wood Park.

What is fossil wood?

Dr. M.V N. Murthy, Director, Geological Survey of India, Tamil Nadu Circle, said that they are simply wood that turned into stone by the handwork of Nature. It takes millions of years for wood to turn into stone.

The fossil wood are located in two places in Tamil Nadu. They are Sattanur in Tiruchirapalli District and Thiruvakkarai in South Arcot District.

The geological Survey of India set up National Parks in both the places, in the fossil bearing areas, donated by the Government of Tamil Nadu, in 1951 and is maintaining them ever since.

The fossils seen in Thiruvakkarai are estimated by experts to be Twenty million years old, belonging to the Miscene age.

The geologists have through various studies, recognised and identified the varied types of rocks and fossils belonging to the common conifer, palm, pulses, punnai and tamarind tree families.

How is it that these tree trunks happen to be here?

The association of fossil wood with the sandstones here suggests that originally logs of wood must have been transported by streams and rivers from mountains and deposited them along with spand here on their way to the sea.

Petrification of logs had obviously resulted by the replacement of woody cellular matter by silica, atom by atom.

This long drawn process of petrification was possible due to the remarkable retention of the anatomical and structural details of wood in spite of the complete conversion of wood into stone.

It must be noted that if the logs had been dumped in Swampy waters, quick bacterial action would have destroyed them.

The presence of fossil wood of conifers which grow at altitudes of about 800 meteres and above only, points to the configuration of the topography of the eastern coast. Ostensibly, luxuriant vegetation including conifers should have proliferated on the high hills along the eastern coast. Subsequently the high hills were subjected to the relentless erosive forces of nature and the hills now seen along the eastern coast may well be remanants.

A part from the Natures gift of the fossil wood, Thiruvakkarai has another attraction for the tourisits.

It is the temple of Chandramouliswara, said to have been built by the Chola rulers in the tenth century.

There is a legend associated with the fossil tree trunks.

It is said that there was a demon called Vakrasura who ruled the area and he was a tyrant. He had a devatrating spell over the humans as well as devas who pleaded with Lord Vishnu, to save them from his clutches. The Lord send his weapon chakra and the demon was destoyed.

The local people beleive that the tree trunks found here were the bones of the wicked demon. The peculiar positioning of the weapon chakra of Lord Vishnu enshrined within the temple suggests that the weapon had just come to rest after performing the task given by the Master.

Natural monuments are not always easily accessible, but, Thiruvakkarai with its centuries old temple and still older fossil trees is easily reached by a motorabie road, branching off from the Tindivanam-Pondicherry road.

It may not be too much to expect that before long Thiruvakkarai will find a place in the tourist map of India and attract large visitors.

In The Soup

A Nantes (France) businessman decided to try his hand at writing. The attempt was successful. His books proved to be very popular. His last novel "La Mauscaille" (which can roughly be translated "In the Soup") was even a best-seller. The businessman wrote his books under the pseudonym of Jean-Guy le Dano. And, then, a weekly reviewing his book divulged his real name—Emile Guyot. The writer, it turned out, was once a notorious gangster and had even been sentenced to death (the sentence was later commuted to imprisonment). The exposure was too much for the man: he died of heart failure.

Defying Thc Doctors

A new club has been founded in London by a group of people who boast that they do everything the doctors forbied. The idea is to prove that one can get along very well without dieting, without taking medicine and without denying oneself anything. Incidentally, the president of the club is 84 years of age and the vice-president is only two years younger.

From page 9

Jest In Pun

friendly the chaplain says to the prisoner: "Sewing, I see." And the prisoner replies grimly: "No, Chaplain, reaping".

A delightful use of the pun consists in changing a word from a well known statement slightly. For instance, when W. S. Gilbert, who wrote the Savoy Operas, was pestered by a player to give his mistress a part in a new production, he turned to a friend and said: "The fellow is obviously trying to blow his own strumpet". And this. When someone observed that it was raining cats and dogs, the wit replies: "Yes, I know. I just stepped into a poodle". Ogden Nash, the American verse-humourist, is of course a past master in this particular genre. In a poem titled "The Strange case of Mr. Fortague's Disappointment" Nash elaborates upon the misanthropy of Mr. Fortague who gets sick of people that he buys a fierce-looking dog in a bargain sale, and tries to train it to bite his neighbours. Unfortunately the dog doesn't do so, and he is disappointed. Why, because and now I quote Ogden Nash: "He had forgotten that a bargain dog never bites".

Because of their sharpness and their economy puns lend themselves easily to making epigrams. For instance, here is one of E. W. Howe's epigrams: "No man's credit is as good as his money". And this one is by Oliver Herford: "No one knows the worth of women's love till he sues for alienation". Mark Twain is responsible for this brilliant epigram: "You can straighten a worm, but the crook is in him and only waiting". Ambrose Bierce proposes this ironic toast; "Here's to Woman! Would that we could fall into her arms without falling into her hands!"

If the spontaneous pun is the best kind, occasionally through an elaborate charade a really complicated pun that amuses by its absurdity can be accomplished. Here is an example: an intrepid hunter in the jungles of Ceylon was so intent on bagging a leopard that in his excitement he dropped his false teeth in the river. Ever since the poor man has been searching for his bridge on the River Kwai. Or this: a group of eye doctors are putting up a new headquarters building. Obviously, a site for sore eyes.

Let me conclude by quoting the acerbic comment on the pun by Charles Lamb, an otherwise amiable person. He said: "A pun is a pistol let off at the ear, not a feather to tickle the intellect". Before pun-lovers rise in wrath and lead Lamb to the slaughter, let me offer equally high authority in favour of the pun. It was Jonatham Swift who said "Punning is a talent which no man affects to despise but he that is without it".

—(Courtesy: AIR Madras)

Film Star's Encounter With "Film World"

By M. A. SRINIVASAN

FILM actress Simi Garewal, known shortly as Simi, created a sensation in the film world some months ago by agreeing to act and acting in the nude in the picture "Siddhartha", produced by Conrad Rook Slako for release in foreign countries only. Some appreciated and many wondered at her bold break through.

In January last, Simi once again created a sensation by coming into confrontation with the Bombay film monthly "Film World" edited by Sri T. M. Ramachandran. The journal had arranged to publish a completely nude still from that picture on the cover page of its Ninth Annual Number, to be released for distribution on the eve of the Republic Day.

The picture was intended to effectively illustrate an article published in that issue written by the Journal's U.S. Correspondent Dr. Robert Steele, Professor of Film at the Boston University, under the title "Will India be denied the original version of "Siddhartha"? The purpose of the article was to draw the attention of the Government of India to bring such artistic films as "Siddhartha" to India and show them in their original form as conceived and filmed by the producer, without subjecting them to puritanic censorship Code. In that article, tributes were paid to Simi for her restrained and dignified acting. The picture symbolised her as a woman of charm and beauty and since it was a beautiful picture and relevant to the article referred to, the Editor decided to publish it on the cover page, to highlight the story.

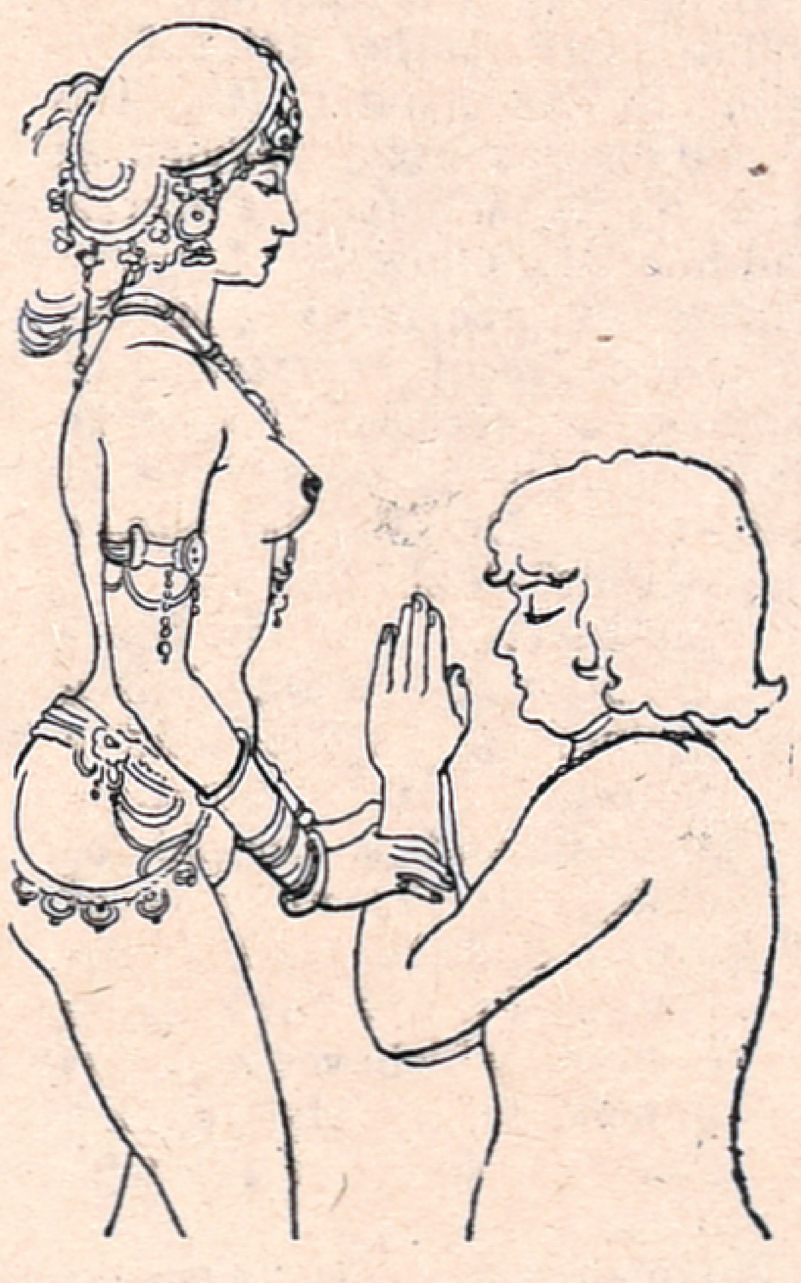
EX-PARTE INJUNCTION ORDER

But Simi evidently had other ideas. Some how getting scent of the Editor's proposal to publish that still on the cover page, she contacted the Editor and suggested that her still should not be published.

The Editor pointed out that the still in question had already been published in the "Illustrated Weekly", dated 7th October 1973 and as she had not taken any objection at that stage, she could not complain about the publication of the same picture again. The Editor firmly declined to comply with her request, though Simi threatened legal action.

The copies of the Ninth Annual Number of the "Film World" were made ready on January 24, 1974 and they were to be distributed the next day. However, Simi in the afternoon of January 24, itself, moved the Bombay City Civil Court and obtained an exparte order of injunction against the release and distribution of the copies of the said Annual Number and served the order on the Editor at 3 A.M. on January 25th.

Subsequently, the case was argued at length by Counsel for Simi and the Editor. It was argued for her that the picture on the front cover would defame her and would belittle her image in the eyes of her co-artistes, producers and movie goers and that



the injunction should be confirmed.

"NO IMPUTATION"

Mr. Ashok Desai, Counsel for the Editor represented that the journal had performed a normal function of publishing a still from a picture, in which Simi had acted and since it was meant to illustrate the cover story, it was considered proper to print the relevant photograph on the cover page. Further, since Simi had not protested against the publication of a similar photograph published in the "Illustrated Weekly" earlier, it was felt that there would be no objection from her for the publication of the same photograph again in this journal. It was also pointed out that the picture published was a beautiful one and that there was no imputation against the reputation of the artiste.

On 6th February 1974, the City Civil Judge, Mr. G. H. Guttal delivered judgment holding that no reasonable man seeing the photograph would think less of Simi and since no harm was done to her by the publication of the same photograph in the "Illustrated Weekly", Simi's complaint had no basis. The Court dismissed the injunction application.

Simi, however, took the matter in appeal to the High Court, Bombay, and the appeal came up for hearing ultimately before Mr. Justice Kania on 27th February '74. After the matter was once again argued at length, Mr. Justice Kania confirmed the judgment of the City Civil Judge.

SIMI LOSES BATTLE

Justice Kania observed that no case had been made out by Simi to restrain the publication of the nude picture in question. The picture was not in bad taste and there was no question of defamation. As the still was part and parcel of the film, in which the actress had acted, there was no distortion or misrepresentation of photographic facts, nor was the picture torn out of context. There was no substance in the contention that the still would belittle her image, since there had been no adverse effect on her after the publication of the identical still in the "Illustrated Weekly". If the actress was prepared to appear in the nude in the foreign version of a film, realising that it would not defame her, she had no right to say that the publication of a still from her film showing her in one of the nude poses would defame her in India. The Judge found no reason to continue the injunction and dismissed the appeal on 28th February 1974. Simi's counsel's request for continuing the injunction to enable her to appeal to the higher Court was also rejected by Mr. Justice Kania. And then the copies of the Ninth Annual Number of the "Film World" which were languishing in the godown for five weeks, finally saw the light of the day in the hand of its readers.

Sri T. M. Ramachandran, Editor of the "Film World" deserves commendation for successfully championing the cause of the fourth estate.

"Naga Sakthi"

The King Cobra in spite of its venemous sack and dangerous propensities is regarded by Hindus with veneration and regard. Its stone image can be found in all parts of India and people worshipping the image is a common sight. There is a general belief that persons propitiating the image and bathing it in milk and water will be blessed with children. The image of the cobra finds a place in several temples too.

It is therefore not surprising that several pictures have been produced with the cobra as the central figure. One of the earliest was the Hindi picture "Nagin" featuring Vyjayanthimala, which proved a great hit for its alluring music. "Naga Panchami" was another Hindi picture which celebrated its silver jubilee.

"Naga Sakthi" is the dubbed Tamil version of the said Hindi film "Nag Panchami", a colourful and spectacular production full of trick-shots and thriling sequences. The King Chandradara refuses to worship the serpantine diety "Naga Kannika" and pays dearly for his action or rather inaction. For all his dear sons are stung to death by the serpents at the behest of Naga Kannika. The king sees reason ultimately and bows to Naga Kannika, who restores to life all the sons of the King.

The picture is a feast to the eyes, Babu Bai Mistri's photography contributing to the same in no small measure. Prithviraj plays the King with dignity and the other actors do their parts well. The picture will be liked by womenfolk and children.—MAS

From page 1

Why Cheap Oil Is Out

to have a basis which could be defended.

Iran's suggested base was the equivalent of the cost of other sources of energy. Thus we proposed to start with the minimum price which was $7. The $7 corresponds to a posted price of $11.65 which is almost half way between the nine and the fourteen. In the OPEC meeting, there were many countries in favour of $14, one country in favour of $9.

Finally everybody agreed in favour of $11.65, which is based on the price of other sources of energy. We can analyse this price in another way. If you take into account the $2.17 actual price in 1947 as I said a minute ago and adjust it for 26 years of inflation so that one barrel of oil in 1974 could have the same purchasing power as in 1947 and add an appropriate amount to compensate for income losses which producing nation suffered during a quarter of century, you will arrive at a figure of about $7.

This explanation is for the benefit of those who claim that there is no basis for $7 and that it is a high price.

For the future, we have declared and explained that there will be no geometric changes in the price of oil but there will be increases in oil prices no doubt, as the cost of other sources of energy will be increased.

Oil prices in future will keep pace with prices of other sources of energy and with the rate of inflation in the industrialised countries. I am sure you are all aware of the fact that in 1973 alone the average inflation in the 12 industrialised countries was 12 per cent. How could you hope for constant oil price when prices of other commodities which we have to import are going to increase at such exorbitant rates. It is also interesting to note that oil at $7 a barrel is about the price of cement, and cement is nothing but dirt, cement is limestone.

Seventy-five per cent of Iran's geology is limestone, but today we have to give one ton of oil to receive one ton of cement. I will give you another example. The price of wheat is four times the price of oil. You have to give four tons of oil to get one ton of wheat even at present so-called high oil prices. Wheat is a reproducible commodity; wheat is very easily grown and replenished, but oil is not.

Higher prices for oil within reasonable limits, and commensurate with prices of other sources of energy, possess the following advantages for the whole world: To begin with, it is the question of conservation. Regardless of who owns the oil, should mankind be allowed to exhaust this natural resource in a relatively short period of time without discovering other sources for the use of future generations?

Oil production started in the United States in the 1850's, and in the Middle East beginning 1900. Seventy years have gone by and proven reserves show that in another 40 to 50 years they will be exhausted if no new reserves are discovered.

Now would it be deemed justified by future historians that in a period of 100 years which, even within Iran's own 6000 years of recorded history is a very short period—let alone many many thousands of years to come—a few generations of human beings completely exhausted a noble natural resource, such as oil, wasted it because of its cheap price and did not think of its replacement?

Regardless of who owns the oil, those who advocate lowering its price are not conscious of the fact that the cheaper the oil the more it will be used as we have seen in the past quarter century. So, one way to preserve oil for future generations is to charge an appropriate price for it, and also use it not as a source of energy but as a source of petrochemicals and to have its price at least equal to the other sources of energy.

Apart from this general considerations, even for the industrial countries—for many of them at least—it is desirable to have the price of oil at least equivalent to the prices of other sources of energy. Because no matter how strong a government is, unless you provide economic incentive you cannot force private companies to invest in other sources of energy as long as they have access to cheap oil. The tremendous reserves of shale oil and tar sands and the coal mines will never be exploited as long as they cost more than oil from the Persian Gulf. So those countries who wish to be independent of foreign sources, should welcome the idea that the oil price should not be cheaper than the cost of other sources of energy.

Secondly, a reasonable price for oil would induce people to save. A traveller not so long ago told me that in one of the skyscrapers of a very famous city there was only one light switch for the entire floor. When he had asked for the reason, he was told that, due to cheap electricity costs, it was cheaper to have one switch and to have all the lights on than to have one switch for every room.

Cheap oil has also encouraged the use of totally sealed-off, highrice apartments and office buildings which require, in addition to heating and air conditioning in summer and winter, twenty-four-hour ventilation.

This practice is not only an indiscriminate use of fuel but deprives inhabitants of these buildings of enjoying beautiful spring or fall weather. This is the sort of waste one gets when we have access to cheap oil. But would future generations forgive us for such wastes? These are facts, not fiction. A reasonable price for oil also induces experts, technicians, and governments, universities to be more careful and more efficient in the use of oil products. The efficiency of gasoline in an average automobile is only thirty-five per cent. Sixty-five per cent of the fuel is going to waste? Because the oil has been cheap, nobody cared to develop more productive techniques for the use of petrol as a source of energy to drive a car.

I do not want to go on and on citing examples because I'm sure all of you have read about these things, know about these things and are conscious of these things. I only wish to bring these out as examples, to show why we think that the price of oil is presently not only reasonable but defensible and that it would be illogical to try to lower this price, because of the reasons which I have explained.

From page 2

them utter the same truth, though in their own idiom.

While it is natural that each individual should cherish a special feeling of reverence for his own religion, it is necessary that every endeavour should be made to appreciate the true meaning and depth of other faiths. This is possible only through a dialogue with one who has personal experience of the particular religious faith which one may try to understand.

It has been said that a religion seen from within is very different from what it looks to be from outside. It is recognised that we must experience that feeling that has thrilled the followers of another faith if we wish to understand it. The Hindu regards every religion as true if its adherents sincerely and honestly follow it. Sankara had a comprehensive appreciation of different expressions of the one truth, even though he spoke of six orthodox systems of religion. Dr. Radhakrishnan quotes Ibnal-Arabi thus:

> My heart has become capable of every form; it is a pasture of gazelles and a convent for Christian monks, and a temple of idols, and the pilgrims of Ka'ba and the book of the Quran. I follow the religion of love, whichever way His camels take. My religion and my faith is the true religion.

Paramahansa Ramakrishna who had a simple and firm faith in the oneness of God himself passed through spiritual experiences peculiar to different religions.

Whether it is Christianity or Hinduism, Islam or Buddhism, Jainism or Sikhism, or any other religion, the goal is the same, though the paths are different. They light different paths towards the same ultimate truth. In the words of the Vedantic dictum: Ekam Sat Vipra Bahuda Vadanti. "He is One without a second, but sages comprehend Him differently and call Him by different names." Vedantic philosophy illustrates the truth thus:

> As different streams having their sources in different places all mingle their waters in the sea, so, O Lord! do the different tendencies take, various though they appear...all lead to Thee.

Sufi Rumi said that the lamps are different but the light is the same. Mahatma Gandhi realised the universality of religion and invoked God by the various names by which different religions call Him. Toynbee rightly held that

> the missions of the higher religions are not competitive: they are complementary. We can believe in our own religion without having to feel that it is the sole repository of truth...

(To be concluded)

"SASTRAM JAYICHU MANUSHYAN THOTTU"

The Malayalam film, Sastram Jayichu Manushyan Thottu, (Science wins, Man fails) being shown in New Elphinstone is a gripping story convincingly told.

Produced by T. E. Vasudevan and directed by A. B. Raj, it is the story of a lady, proclaimed to be heart patient within three months after marriage. After two attacks, days were counted for her third fatal attack—Scientists discovered a stronger heart could be transplanted.

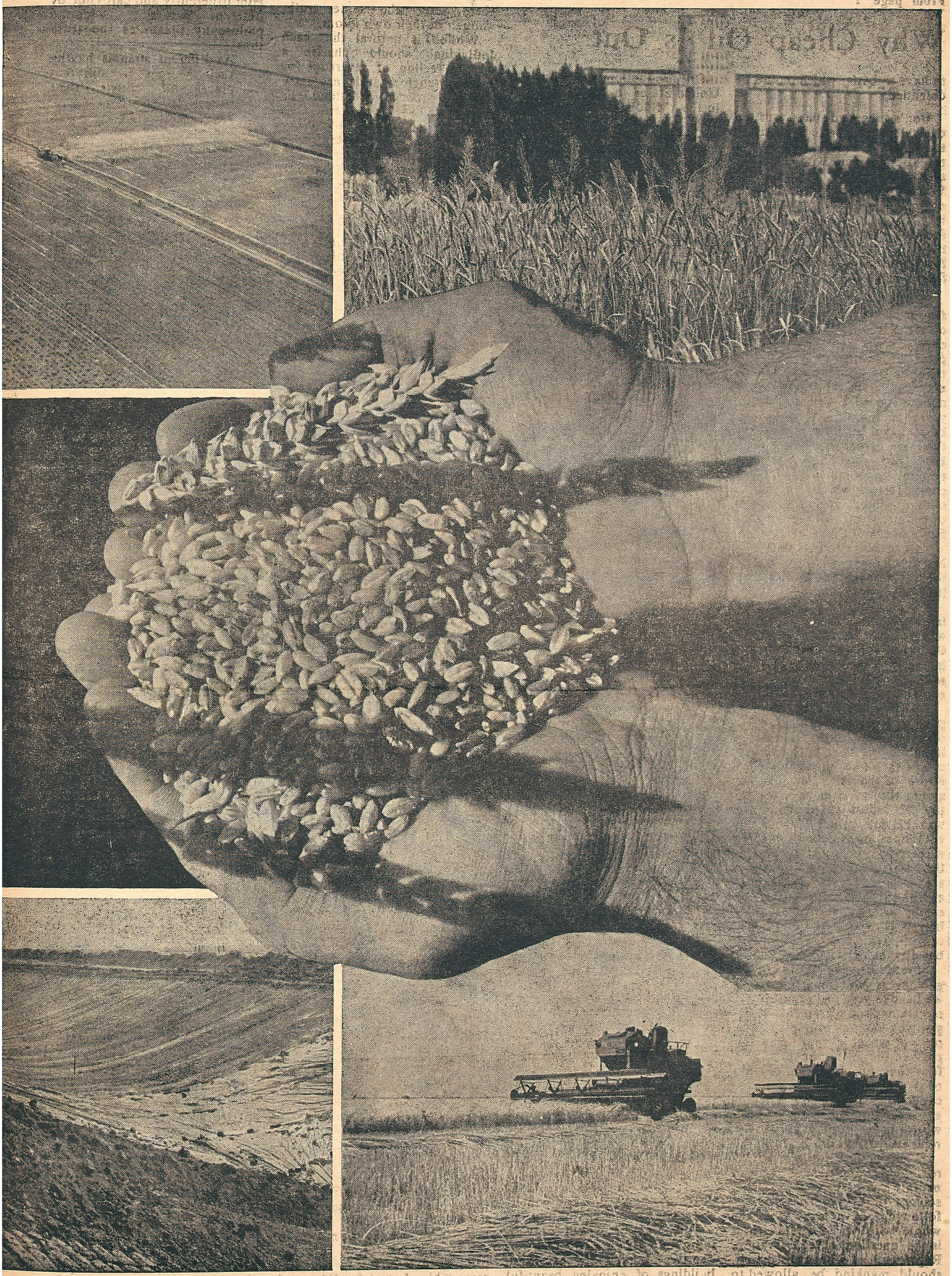
It was on December 3, 1967 that Great South African Surgeon did the first Heart Transplant. The first attempt in India was made recently at Bombay. When Scientists continued their great task for Development of Science spending crores and crores of rupees, superstition crept in a section.

'Superstition' believed a person dies when the whole body stops functioning and finally when 'Jeevathma' leaves the body as the heart stops beating for the last! Where the heart is revived to function, has that heart stopped beating for the last? Does 'Jeevathma' leave that body? Does that soul of the deceased person rest in peace?"

This psychological upset o that lady who had a heart transplanted in her—her Husband's agony for her life—Donor who realised that his late wife's soul had no rest in peace, upset by the crime he has committed to his late wife whose heart was donated—Scientists' plight in between Scientific Progress and Superstition,

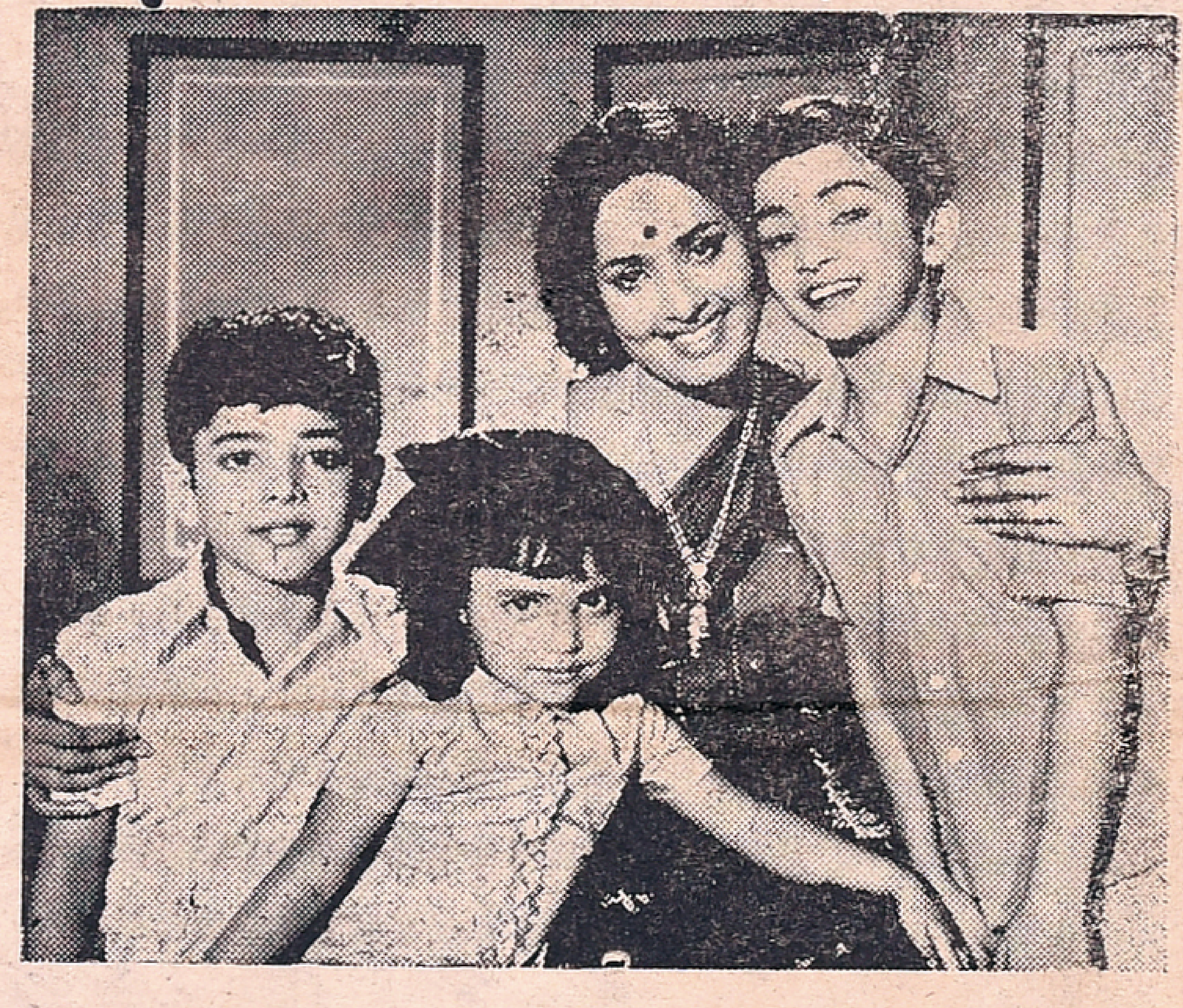
The film features Prem Nazir, Raghavan, Thikkurisi Jayabarathi, Nirmala, Santha Devi and others.

Among the many good features in the film, special mention must be made about the music by V. Dakshinamurthy, which is quite pleasing. The lyrics are by Kumaran Thambi and playback by Jesudes, Jayachandran, Dakshinamurthy, Brahmanandan, Janaki and P. Leela.



Here is the harvest!

A grain field in the USSR.



K. R. Vijaya with some kids in Visalakshi Films "Theerkasumangali," slated for release on April 12.

Printed and published for the Free India Private Ltd., by G. Rangarajan at the Free India Press, 77, General Patters Road, Mount Road, Madras-600002. Editor D. Krishnamurthy.